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Private tuitions helped blunt learning loss

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Aero India expo showcases India's self-confidence: PM

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Proud moment: Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressing the inaugural of the 14th edition of Aero India at IAF Yelahanka Air Force Station in Bengaluru on Monday. K. MURALI KUMAR

The perception of the biennial expo Aero India has changed and today it is India's strength. It is a show that not only showcases the scope of the defence industry but also the self-confidence of India, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said here on Monday while inaugurating the 14th edition of Aero India.

Setting a target to take defence exports from $1.5 bn to $5 bn by 2024-25, Mr. Modi said the defence sector has seen a transformation in the last 8-9 years. "From here, India will take rapid strides to be included among the largest defence manufacturing countries and our private sector and investors will play a big role in that."

He said the country which was the largest defence importer for decades has now started exporting defence equipment to 75 countries in the world. "The India of today thinks fast, thinks far and takes quick decisions", Mr. Modi said, an analogy that India in *Amrit Kaal* is soaring like a fighter pilot.

This year's expo has the participation of more than 80 countries along with 800 defence companies, which include around 100 foreign and 700 Indian companies.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh chaired a CEOs' round table where he reiterated that India does not want to remain an assembly workshop and that manufacturing cutting-edge products was the need of the hour to attain *Aatmanirbharta*.

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Adani case: Centre has no objection to SC panel

Govt., SEBI want to 'suggest' to the court the committee's mandate and possible names in a sealed cover to protect the market from any upsets; proposal to be submitted at hearing on Friday

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Union government and the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on Monday said they have no objection to the Supreme Court constituting an expert committee to examine the existing regulatory regime and frameworks in the securities market to protect investors from share value meltdowns such as the one seen in the Adani Group, triggered by the U.S.-based short-seller Hindenburg Research report.

However, the Centre and the SEBI urged a three-judge Bench led by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud to allow them to "suggest" to the court the committee's mandate and the names of its members in a sealed cover in order to protect the market from any upsets.

> The remit of the committee would be very, very relevant because any unintentional message to international and domestic investors that even a regulatory or statutory authority needs monitoring by a committee appointed by the highest court of the country may have some adverse impact on the flow of money
>
> **TUSHAR MEHTA,** Solicitor-General

"We have no objections in Your Lordships constituting a committee, but the remit of the committee would be very, very relevant because any unintentional message to international and domestic investors that even a regulatory or statutory authority needs monitoring by a committee appointed by the highest court of the country may have some adverse impact on the flow of money... So, if you may permit us to suggest the remit of the committee along with suggestions of the possible names for the committee in a sealed cover... They will be people of some calibre and standing," Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre and the SEBI, assured the court.

Mr. Mehta explained that it may not be "appropriate" to discuss the government's suggestions in open court as they "may or may not appeal to Your Lordships". He said "we would not like to undermine the competence of the agencies, including the regulator and the regime available".

The court asked Mr. Mehta to prepare a note on the proposed mandate of the committee and bring it on Friday (February 17), the next date of hearing.

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'WHY NOT A JPC INQUIRY?'
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NEARBY

'No proposal to introduce sattvic diet in schools'

BENGALURU
There is no proposal before the government to introduce 'sattvic' diet in schools, School Education and Literacy Minister B.C. Nagesh informed the Legislative Council on Monday.
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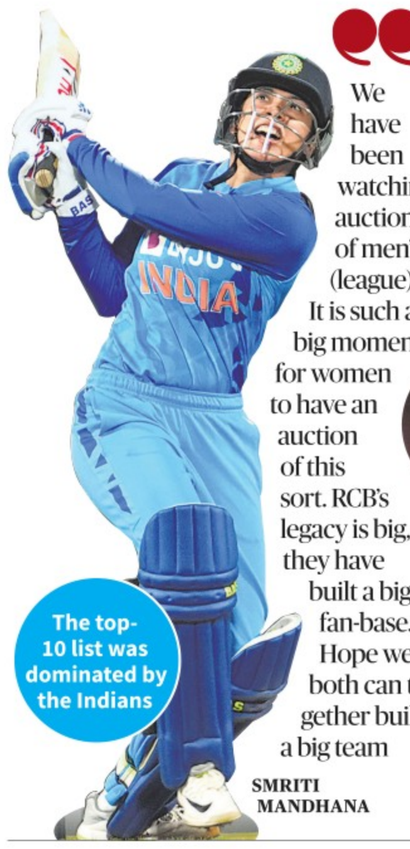
Special court convicts MLA and his sons

BENGALURU
A special court has convicted Nehru C. Olekar, BJP MLA, his two sons, and five then officials of Haveri city municipal council in a corruption case of 2012 and sentenced them to two years imprisonment.
» Page 3

Smriti steals the show at WPL auction

Star India opener Smriti Mandhana hit paydirt, attracting the highest bid **of ₹3.40 crore,** at the Women's Premier League (WPL) auction in Mumbai on Monday. Royal Challengers Bangalore secured her services while all-rounders Natalie Sciver-Brunt of England and Australia's Ashleigh Gardner were bought for ₹3.20 crore each by Mumbai Indians and Gujarat Giants respectively.



> We have been watching auctions of men's (league). It is such a big moment for women to have an auction of this sort. RCB's legacy is big, they have built a big fan-base. Hope we both can together build a big team
>
> SMRITI MANDHANA

The top-10 list was dominated by the Indians

TOP BUYS

- **Smriti Mandhana** (Ind): Royal Challengers Bangalore, ₹3.4 cr.
- **Deepti Sharma** (Ind): UP Warriorz, ₹2.6 cr.
- **Jemimah Rodrigues** (Ind): Delhi Capitals, ₹2.2 cr.
- **Shafali Verma** (Ind): Delhi Capitals, ₹2 cr.
- **Beth Mooney** (Aus): Gujarat Giants, ₹2 cr.
- **Richa Ghosh** (Ind): Royal Challengers Bangalore, ₹1.9 cr.
- **Pooja Vastrakar** (Ind): Mumbai Indians, ₹1.9 cr.
- **Sophie Ecclestone** (Eng): UP Warriorz, ₹1.8 cr.
- **Harmanpreet Kaur** (Ind): Mumbai Indians, ₹1.8 cr.
- **Natalie Sciver-Brunt** (Eng): Mumbai Indians, ₹3.2 cr.
- **Ashleigh Gardner** (Aus): Gujarat Giants, ₹3.2 cr.

GOING UNSOLD: Chamari Athapaththu (SL) | Laura Wolvaardt (SA) | Danni Wyatt (Eng)

SPORT » PAGE 15

Retail inflation rises to 6.52% in January, a 3-month high

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

India's retail inflation shot back up to 6.52% in January after a two-month streak below the 6% mark, with consumer food prices hardening again to 5.94% from 4.2% in December 2022 amid a broad-based pick-up in price trends across goods and services.

Rural inflation, which has outstripped urban inflation in recent months, firmed up from 6.05% in December to 6.85% in January, while urban consumers faced retail price rise of 6% in January, compared to 5.4% in December.

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Supreme Court upholds constitution of Jammu and Kashmir delimitation panel

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday dismissed a challenge to the constitution of the Jammu and Kashmir Delimitation Commission to readjust constituencies in the new Union Territory.

"Articles 2 and 3 of the Constitution enable the Parliament to create new States and Union territories. Accordingly, the two new Union territories have been created. The J&K Reorganisation Act which created the two new Union territories assigns the role of readjustment of constituencies to the Delimitation Commission under the Delimitation Act, 2002... a law made under Article 3 can always provide for readjustment of the Constituencies in the newly constituted States or Union territories through the Delimitation Commission. Hence, we hold that there is no illegality associated with the establishment of the Delimitation Commission under the order of March 6, 2020," a Bench of Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul and A.S. Oka held. The petition was filed by Srinagar residents, Haji Abdul Gani Khan and Dr. Mohammad Ayub Mattoo.

The court said the plea did not challenge the constitutional validity of the Commission.

Represented by senior advocate Ravi Shankar Jandhyala and advocates Sriram Parakkat and M.S. Vishnu Shankar, the petition was limited to a challenge of the notification issued by the Centre in March 2020 establishing the Jammu and Kashmir Delimitation Commission and a second one in March 2021 extending its term for the purpose of conducting delimitation only for Jammu and Kashmir.

"Once the Delimitation Commission was established, there is nothing wrong if the central government extended the period of appointment of the Chairperson till the task of delimitation/readjustment was completed," Justice Oka, who authored the judgment, concluded.

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VARIED REACTIONS
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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Most universities still functioning without NAAC accreditation

695 The number of universities across India operating without accreditation from the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), Parliament was informed. Data given by Union Minister of State for Education Subhas Sarkar also added that 34,734 colleges were also operating without NAAC accreditation. PTI

Power Finance Corporation sees rise in profit

7 In percentage, the rise in consolidated net profit of the Power Finance Corporation (PFC) at ₹5,241 crore in the December quarter, mainly due to higher revenues. The company's net profit was ₹4,893 crore in the October-December quarter of FY22. The company's total income rose to ₹19,662 crore in the quarter under review from ₹19,213 crore in the year-ago period. PTI

Projects approved by MoHUA under AMRUT 2.0 scheme

6,527 The number of projects under the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) 2.0 that was approved by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Minister of State Kaushal Kishore said. The Minister added that ₹45,482 crore has been approved for the projects under the scheme. PTI

Faculty positions in government HEIs remain vacant

14,606 The number of faculty positions vacant in higher education institutions (HEIs) under the Ministry of Education. Union Minister of State for Education Subhas Sarkar directed all Central institutions to fill up the vacancies. He added that more than 6,000 posts of faculty and non-faculty were filled. PTI

Australian government funding for indigenous communities

293 In million dollars, the amount set aside by the Australian government in funds to improve the lives of Australia's original inhabitants. On top of the $830 million in Indigenous spending announced in October, the new funding includes $104 million to provide drinking water to Outback Indigenous communities. AP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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Tackling postpartum depression

What constitutes postpartum depression? Are there particular factors that make women susceptible to the condition? Do the symptoms vary much between that of clinical depression? What are the different methods of treatment? How effective is electroconvulsive therapy?

PULSE-CHECK

Alok Kulkarni

Early signs: Depression, anxiety, and eating disorders are some of the conditions that women face during pregnancy and postpartum phases. GETTY IMAGES

The links between childbirth and mental disorders have been described for hundreds of years. Mental illness after childbirth isn't merely of historical interest. As illustrated by the findings of the U.K. Confidential Enquiries into Maternal Deaths, suicide is a leading cause of maternal death following childbirth.

In India itself, the prevalence of postpartum depression was around 22% in 2017. If a person develops psychotic depression or if the depression is severe, there is a high risk of dying by suicide. In such situations, healthcare workers advise more aggressive interventions.

Traditional classification systems don't include separate categories for episodes of mental illnesses that occur in the perinatal period, leading to confusion in clinical practice as well as in research. The ubiquitous use of the term 'postpartum depression' also erroneously refers to all forms of psychological distress following pregnancy - from mild mood changes to more severe psychotic conditions.

Postpartum depression is a significant form of depression that can begin after childbirth, with symptoms that vary from person to person, and has important differences from 'baby blues'. In clinical practice, this period can last anywhere between four to six weeks following delivery, but sometimes even up to a year.

Women can be affected by a range of mental health problems in pregnancy and the postpartum period, including depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder, psychosis, and personality and eating disorders. Despite this, perinatal psychiatric disorders have not received the attention that they deserve.

Postpartum depression is a real medical illness that can affect any mother regardless of age, income or cultural and/or educational background. Women are not to be faulted for having postpartum depression.

A prior history of mood or anxiety disorders, stressful life events, poor social support, and domestic violence are established risk factors for depression in the postpartum period. Additional risk factors include poor social support, adverse life events, domestic violence, a history of prior psychiatric illness, unplanned or unwanted pregnancy, and present/past pregnancy complications.

Clinical presentation

The clinical presentation doesn't vary much between depression in the postpartum period and depression that occurs at other times. The core symptoms of depression include low mood, loss of pleasure in activities, and easy fatigability. However, fatigue, loss of libido, appetite and weight change, and sleep disturbances are more common in the postpartum period. Thoughts of self-harm are also common in postpartum depression.

Women who present with psychiatric symptoms in the postpartum period are at higher risk of being diagnosed with a severe mental illness called bipolar disorder. In a 2012 Danish study, around 14% of women with first-time psychiatric symptoms within a month of childbirth were later diagnosed with bipolar disorder in a follow-up timeframe of 15 years. Another study, published in 2010, found that more than half the participants with bipolar disorder with postpartum onset were initially misdiagnosed with unipolar depression. So it is prudent to keep an eye out for underlying bipolar diathesis in women presenting with postpartum depression.

Screening and solutions

It is vital to sensitise obstetricians to screen women for postpartum depression. Awareness about this entity is abysmally low, contributing to its morbidity, loss of productivity, and in some cases loss of life.

The Whooley questions are recommended in the U.K. to screen women for postpartum depression. Globally, the Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale, a self-reported measure, is also used to assess postpartum depression. The condition lasts between three and six months, and it is essential that healthcare professionals pay attention to a woman's mental health in addition to her physical well-being.

The affliction responds to the same treatments as depression at other times. Psychological interventions have been shown to be effective for mild postpartum depression in clinical trials. Given that many people don't wish to take medicines while breastfeeding, peer-support, counselling, cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT), and interpersonal therapy become important interventions.

CBT is a talking therapy that helps people by changing the way they think and behave. It is based on the premise that thoughts, feelings, physical sensations, and actions are interconnected, and that negative thoughts and feelings can trap us in a vicious cycle. CBT attempts to restructure faulty patterns of thinking into more positive and logical ones.

Interventions are also directed at the mother-baby dyad, especially if there has been no response to treatment. Among those with moderate to severe depression, medication will be required. The use of safe, effective, evidenced-based medications for depression in pregnancy has increased considerably in recent decades, with rates varying from 3% to 13%.

Innovative and novel drug treatments are increasingly available for women with postpartum depression. One such involves a 60-hour hormonal infusion (brexanolone), which has shown promise in an early-stage trial. Before it can be adopted more widely, the results will need to be replicated in larger trials.

Decisions regarding medication for breastfeeding women must be made only after a risk-benefit analysis. Interventions such as special diets, exercise, yoga, and the use of oestrogens and progestins have limited evidence vis-à-vis postpartum depression as of today.

In severe depression characterised by suicidal ideas or when the person has thoughts of self-harm or of harming the baby, doctors perform electroconvulsive therapy. Here, a small electrical charge is applied to the person's temples while the person is under short anaesthesia. This results in a controlled seizure that helps to offset brain changes caused by depression.

It is one of the most effective interventions in the history of clinical medicine. Unfortunately, it has been portrayed negatively in films (notably '*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*').

A range of safe, effective, and evidence-based treatment options exist for psychiatric disorders with onset in the postpartum period. Postpartum depression is a common but serious disorder that is amenable to bio-psycho-social interventions. Right treatment at the right time in fact leads to rapid recovery and a better quality of life. Stigma, lack of awareness, and misconceptions shouldn't hinder a person from seeking help, particularly in this sensitive time.

No part of this article should be construed as medical advice. If you have any questions, please contact your physician.

Dr. Alok Kulkarni is a senior consultant psychiatrist, Manas Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, Hubli.

Those in distress or having suicidal tendencies could seek help and counselling by calling Sanjivini: 011-4076 9002 (Delhi), DISHA - 1056, 0471-2552056 (Chennai), ASRA - 022 2754 6669 (Mumbai) and Lifeline Foundation - 033-24637401/32 (Kolkata)

THE GIST

Postpartum depression is a real medical illness that can affect any mother regardless of age, income or cultural and/or educational background. Women are not to be blamed or faulted for having postpartum depression.

Women who present with psychiatric symptoms in the postpartum period are at higher risk of being diagnosed with a severe mental illness called bipolar disorder. In a 2012 Danish study, around 14% of women with first-time psychiatric symptoms within a month of childbirth were later diagnosed with bipolar disorder in a follow-up timeframe of 15 years.

Psychological interventions have been shown to be effective for mild postpartum depression in clinical trials. Given that many people don't wish to take medicines while breastfeeding, peer-support, counselling, cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT), and interpersonal therapy become important interventions. In severe depression characterised by suicidal ideas, doctors perform electroconvulsive therapy.

Postpartum depression is a common but serious disorder that is amenable to bio-psycho-social interventions. Right treatment at the right time in fact leads to rapid recovery and a better quality of life.

The Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale

A mother underlines which of the four possible responses is closest to how she has been feeling during the past week

In the past 7 days:

1. I have been able to laugh and see the funny side of things
a. As much as I always could
b. Not quite so much now
c. Definitely not so much now
d. Not at all

2. I have looked forward with enjoyment to things
a. As much as I ever did
b. Rather less than I used to
c. Definitely less than I used to
d. Hardly at all

3. I have blamed myself unnecessarily when things went wrong
a. Yes, most of the time
b. Yes, some of the time
c. Not very often
d. No, never

4. I have been anxious or worried for no good reason
a. No, not at all
b. Hardly ever
c. Yes, sometimes
d. Yes, very often

5. I have felt scared or panicky for no very good reason
a. Yes, quite a lot | b. Yes, sometimes
c. No, not much | d. No, not at all

6. Things have been getting on top of me
a. Yes, most of the time I haven't been able to cope at all
b. Yes, sometimes I haven't been coping as well as usual
c. No, most of the time I have coped quite well
d. No, I have been coping as well as ever

7. I have been so unhappy that I have had difficulty sleeping
a. Yes, most of the time
b. Yes, sometimes
c. Not very often
d. No, not at all

8. I have felt sad or miserable
a. Yes, most of the time
b. Yes, quite often
c. Not very often
d. No, not at all

9. I have been so unhappy that I have been crying
a. Yes, most of the time
b. Yes, quite often
c. Only occasionally
d. No, never

10. The thought of harming myself has occurred to me
a. Yes, quite often
b. Sometimes
c. Hardly ever | d. Never

Sourced from: British Journal of Psychiatry 1987, 150:782-786, J L Cox, J M Holden and R Sagovsky

From Page One

PM: Aero India showcases India's self-confidence

Mr. Modi referred to the indigenous Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) and aircraft carrier INS Vikrant as examples of India's successes in self-reliance. "The new India of the 21st century will neither miss any opportunity nor will it lack any effort," he added.

Addressing the CEOs' round table, Mr. Singh listed out the series of "far-reaching" reforms undertaken by the Defence Ministry to create a business-friendly climate in the country. These include setting up of defence corridors in Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu; simplification of industrial licensing processes; hike in the cap on FDI in defence; the opening of government trial and testing facilities for the private sector; increase in capital outlay for defence in Budget 2023-24 and launch of Technology Development Fund and Innovations for Defence Excellence.

INBRIEF

Bengaluru among eight cities to have veterans' hospital

Bengaluru is among the eight cities in the country where veterans' hospitals will be developed with private partnership using CSR funds. The other cities are Delhi, Hyderabad, Ambala, Chennai, Jalandhar, Bareilly and Dehradun.

According to MD of Ex-servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS) Maj. Gen. N.R. Indurkar, the eight locations have been preferred as a large number of ex servicemen reside there and a certain ecosystem already exists where private entities can partner with the government to set up veterans hospitals. He pointed to examples of Reliance, ONGC, GAIL, Infosys and Tatas spending CSR funds for creating large medical infrastructure.

Sharing details about the proposed model, he said, "The plan is to have 200 to 400-bed hospitals. Infrastructure can be developed by private entity on defence land or land along with developed infrastructure would be given for the private entity to manage the hospital." He said through these models, the cost of medical treatment could be reduced. "The hospital will be open for civilians too. It will differentiate between corporate competition and welfare," he said.

IAF Chief leads from the front as Aero India 2023 gets off to a spectacular start

This was the first time an IAF Chief participated in the inaugural flypast of the Aero India show

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The much-awaited Aero India 2023 got off to a spectacular start with the Chief of Indian Air (IAF) V.R. Chaudhari leading the display with a Gurukul formation during the inaugural flypast. Air Chief Marshal Chaudhari who is also a Cat 'A' Qualified Flying Instructor piloted the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas which was flanked by one Hawk-i aircraft, one Intermediate Jet Trainer (IJT) and one Hindustan Turbo Trainer-40 (HTT-40).

This was the first time an IAF Chief participated in the inaugural flypast of the Aero India, showcasing the capabilities of the indigenous fighter jet and its export potential. In the recent past, Middle Eastern, South East Asian and some African countries have expressed interest in the LCA.

IAF helicopters flypast at the inauguration of Aero India 2023 at IAF Yelahanka Air Force Station in Bengaluru on Monday; (right) Indian Air Force's C17 Globemaster leads a formation of the Surya Kiran aerobatics team at the inauguration. K. MURALI KUMAR

The 'Trishul' Formation of Su 30 MKIs of the Indian Air Force, during the inauguration in Bengaluru on Monday. K. MURALI KUMAR

Indian Air Force aircraft fly in a formation on Monday; (below) IAF's Light Combat Helicopter puts on a show. K. MURALI KUMAR

Tiranga formation

The flypast began with the Tiranga formation with three Kiran MKII aircraft followed by Dhwaj formation with four Mi 17 helicopters carrying the national flag, the IAF and G-20 flags.

Also taking part in the flypast were Advanced Light Helicopter, Light Combat Helicopter, Netra Airborne Early Warning and Control System (AEW&CS), Sukhoi-30 Mki, MiG-29, Jaguars, Mirage 2000s, Rafle and Boeing P-8i. The Light Combat Helicopter, Sukhoi-30 Mki, LCA also demonstrated their capabilities. There was also a flypast of the Surya Kiran Aerobatic Team's nine aircraft and the Globemaster.

Surya Kiran display

The Surya Kiran aerobatic team also put up a scintillating air display. The Sarang helicopter display, who were slated to also perform during the inaugural flight demonstrations, however did not perform on Monday.

The Tactical Aerial Platform for Advanced Surveillance (TAPAS) UAV which is making its debut at the airshow also captured the ground and air display during the inaugural flypast from a height of 12,000 feet.

The multi-mission UAV which can carry out the Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance roles for the three-Armed Forces with an endurance of 24 to 30 hours took off from the Aeronautical Test Range, Chitradurga, and captured the proceedings at Air Force Station at Yelahanka.

Army Chief flies LCH

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Indian Army Chief General Manoj Pande flew the indigenously developed light combat helicopter (LCH) Prachand on the inaugural day of the Aero India on Monday.

General Pande said that he was very impressed with the features of the helicopter, especially its manoeuvrability. "It is capable of meeting the combat requirements," he said. LCH is a 5.5-ton class combat helicopter designed and developed by HAL.

He added that efforts were on to build a system to fight future wars with completely indigenous systems in the next eight to ten years. He also said that the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict has emphasised the need to be self-reliant in niche technologies to fight the future war.

F-35 makes roaring debut

Hemanth C.S.
BENGALURU

Around noon on the inaugural day of Aero India 2023, two F-35s of the United States Air Force (USAF) roared into the India Air Force station at Yelahanka in Bengaluru.

The F-35A Lightning II is the newest fifth-generation fighter of the USAF with stealth, supersonic, and multi-role capabilities.

This is the first time that an F-35, developed by US defence company Lockheed Martin, is in India.

In the run-up to the airshow, there was speculation about the fifth-generation jets participation in Aero India 2023. On the eve of the airshow, the US delegation announced that there would be a surprise in store for the visitors.

Soon after their arrival in Yelahanka, the two F-35s were the focus of everyone's attention. Officers from the Indian armed forces and visitors clicked photographs and selfies with the fifth-generation fighter on the tarmac.

On February 13, the aircraft did not take part in any demonstration, but are expected to do so from Day 2 of the airshow.

The United States Air Force's (USAF) fifth-generation fighters F-35A Lightning II and F-35A Joint Strike Fighter made their debut at Aero India 2023, on Monday. K. MURALI KUMAR

According to the US consulate general, the F-35A Lightning II demonstration team will demonstrate its unique aerial capabilities during the airshow, and the F-35A Lightning will be on static display.

The F-35s engine consists of a 3-stage fan, a 6-stage compressor, an annular combustor, a single stage high-pressure turbine, and a 2-stage low-pressure turbine. The engine produces 43,000 pounds of thrust.

"The F-35 represents the leading-edge of U.S. fighter technology. Aero India is an ideal forum to showcase the most advanced, capable, lethal, and interoperable weapons systems the U.S. has to offer. This system and others are designed to penetrate and defeat advanced adversary air defences," said Major General Julian C. Cheater, Assistant Deputy Undersecretary of the air force, International Affairs.

Replying to query on February 12, the U.S. delegation told mediapersons that it would be too premature for the U.S. to offer the F-35 to India.

Midhani to display five new alloys at aero show

V. Geetanath
HYDERABAD

Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited (Midhani), the Defence public sector metallurgy unit, will be showcasing its latest five nickel and titanium metal alloy products, which have a high strength, are lightweight, anti-corrosive and malleable for use in strategic sectors of Defence and Aerospace, as well as various other civilian uses, during Aero India 2023.

"Every year, we are developing four to five special material products to make us stand out in the market. Last year, we launched six metal alloys in the show, and this year, there will be a massive demonstration of Aerospace metal alloys developed by us," informed Chairman and Managing Director S.K. Jha, in an exclusive interaction.

The Hyderabad firm will be showcasing the special grade alloy materials of about 14 varieties being used in the manufacture of indigenous Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Mark 1 and Mark 2 by the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), and also the very recent making of gear boxes and bearings for the Light Combat Helicopters (LCH), Light Utility Helicopters (LUH), along with other variants.

"All these were being imported earlier. We are now supplying the key materials like five varieties of steel developed in house for every kind of helicopter being manufactured by the HAL. We have also developed titanium alloy material for Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA), and all the materials grades into making the engine and other parts of the Sukhoi fighter jets," said the CMD.

Govt. woos private sector to resettle personnel who come out of armed forces in their prime

Sharath S. Srivatsa
BENGALURU

With about 60,000 armed forces personnel retiring from service every year, the Union government on Monday wooed the private sector to resettle those personnel who retired during their prime. The government is also seeking CSR funds so that it can enhance certain financial assistance to veterans.

According to data shared by the Directorate-General of Resettlement, there are about 30 lakh ex-servicemen in the country, and 60,000 personnel, including about 2,000 officers, retire annually. Of the retiring personnel, about 75% to 80% are in the age group of 35 to 45 and about 11% are above 50 years.

"A lack of awareness is a big challenge in ex-servicemen resettlement. Today, we have specialists coming out. Veterans have the ability to handle stress, strong work ethics, loyalty, skills, educational qualifications," said Maj. Gen. Sharad Kapoor, DG Resettlement. He said the Army alone had 140 trades, while the Air Force and the Navy had over 100. "Though personnel are skilled, there are, however, very limited job opportunities," he said.

CSR funds

Seeking CSR funds in sainik resettlement, Cmde H.P. Singh, Secretary of Kendriya Sainik Board, said the CSR funds would help enhance the financial assistance being given to ex-servicemen and their dependents. He cited examples of ₹50,000 being given for the marriage of girls and ₹30,000 for medical expenses, among many others. "Under various financial assistance schemes, ₹610 crore has been spent on 2.5 lakh families in the last three years, with ₹400 crore spent on 1.7 lakh families only in 2021-2022," he said.

AstroVest, the country's first textile-based health monitoring system for inflight pilot health monitoring. K. MURALI KUMAR

AstroVest ready for testing

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

AstroVest, the country's first textile-based health monitoring system for inflight pilot health monitoring, is ready to be tested by the IAF in the next few months. Developed by Bengaluru-based Astromeda Space, it will undergo stringent military certification that will be completed in next three months.

The wearable and washable vest can continuously monitor physiological parameters such as ECG, GSR, EMG, heart rate, respiration rate, BP, Spo2 and temperature. "The data that can also be transferred in real time, will be transferred to the medical expert for evaluation. IAF has sought a recorded data model," said Astromeda Director K. Rajagurunathan.

PM Modi meets actors, sportspersons, social media influencers

Prime Minister Narendra Modi with former cricketers Anil Kumble, B.K. Venkatesh Prasad and Javagal Srinath, and others during a meeting, at Raj Bhavan in Bengaluru, on Sunday night. PTI

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Most of these celebrities later took to Twitter to share their take on meeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who was on an official visit to the city to inaugurate Aero India, met a host of actors, sportspersons, entrepreneurs, and social media influencers on Sunday night at the Raj Bhavan for dinner.

The meet comes ahead of the Assembly elections in the State in April-May and when the Prime Minister seems to be leading the campaign for the BJP.

BJP sources said that the dinner meet was an outreach by the party, where Mr. Modi, its best mascot, deployed his "charm offensive."

Some of the eminent personalities who called on the Prime Minister, included former India cricket captain Anil Kumble, actors Yash and Rishab Shetty, social media influencer 'Aiyyo' Shraddha, Vijay Kiragandur of Hombale Films that produced *KGF* and *Kantara*, Ashwini Puneeth Rajkumar, wife of late actor Puneeth Rajkumar, entrepreneurs Tarun Mehta of e-bike manufacturer Ather Energy, and Nithin Kamath of Zerodha, an online stock trading startup. Actor Sudeep said while he was also invited, he couldn't make it as he was unwell. Most of these celebrities later took to Twitter to share their take on meeting the PM.

Mr. Rishab Shetty said Mr. Modi was appreciative of *Kantara* and discussed the resurgence of the Kannada film industry.

Former cricketer B.K. Venkatesh Prasad tweeted that the Prime Minister "discussed a variety of issues including sports infrastructure, Olympics, and sporting culture in India."

Mr. Mehta tweeted that the Prime Minister had deep insights into battery manufacturing, evolving energy supply chains and EVs for India and Mr. Kamath tweeted that his new health and fitness goal was to be able to operate at his [Mr. Modi's] intensity when he was 72.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

When a community takes to the streets for inclusion and their right to dignity

The onus of battling discrimination has fallen onto the shoulders of Dalits. We have to shrug off indifference and shoulder responsibility. It is only when we concentrate on the construction of a political consensus in society, that the uncomfortable distinction between 'us' and 'them' will dissolve.

Neera Chandoke

A 16-year-old Class 11 Dalit student in Uttar Pradesh's Bijnor district was allegedly beaten up by principal Yogendra Kumar and two others on Monday after he drank water from the principal's bottle during a farewell party organised for outgoing Class 12 students. Based on the student's complaint, the police lodged a case against the principal and two others under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Prevention of Atrocities Act and other Sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). In the light of this incident, the following piece from 2018 gains significance.

On the morning of April 3, the front pages of newspapers told us of violent protests by Dalits in northern India the day before. They had opposed the dilution by the Supreme Court, in its order of March 20, 2018, of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act. Blazing headlines and accounts that followed told us how many people had been killed and injured, about innumerable acts of arson, of the blocking of trains, closure of shops and the calling in of Central forces in some States. Sadly, the tone of most reports was dispassionate, soulless and bare. They might have been recounting a tale of a privileged group inflicting violence on geographical and human landscapes for the noble purpose of lowering taxes.

But we need to go beyond headlines and ask why a vulnerable community took to the streets. Think of its desperation, how it has lost confidence in the ability of Indian democracy and now the judiciary to give it justice, how the promises of the Constitution have been blatantly and vulgarly betrayed, and how it has been subjected to repeated indignities, reiterated insults and bodily harm by citizens of this great Republic. Worse, its own leaders have let it down.

If the leadership had faithfully discharged its mandate of representing the needs of Dalits, the represented would not be living lives that are best described as subhuman. In January 2016 the death of Rohith Vemula, in July 2016 the public attacks on Dalits in Una, and earlier this year attacks on celebrations of the historic Bhima-Koregaon battle in Maharashtra showed up in great detail the flaws of our body politic. How many more indignities does the community have to suffer? How long will non-Dalits be indifferent to this suffering? It is time to reflect. What has gone wrong with the project of justice that independent India initiated with a flourish? What has gone wrong with our own sensibilities? It is time to agonise and to feel shame.

Last resort: Protestors hurl stones during the 'Bharat Bandh' against the alleged 'dilution' of the SC/ST Act in Morena on April 2, 2018. PTI

Uneven results

Affirmative action policies centring on the politics of presence have certainly contributed to the repair of historical wrongs. The advantages of these policies are, however, unevenly spread out. The constituency of affirmative action has benefited in bits and pieces. For instance, we see the making of an educated and professionally qualified Dalit middle class. A Dalit movement has succeeded in prising open worlds that for long had been closed to the community. Activists have seized the right to voice through collective action, and now influence and even shape, public debates.

Today, Dalits write their own histories and biographies. A vibrant literary movement denounces the ostracism of an entire community from mainstream society, and chronicles the nerve-racking experience of being treated as an outcaste. Challenging prevailing literary conventions, rewriting the script of literary and poetic production, inserting the community into critical narratives of the Indian nation, and intent on representing their own community, writers have profoundly dented the way we think of others and of ourselves.

This genre of literature has gained considerable acclaim. English translations of Dalit literary works, for example Omprakash Valmiki's Joothan (2003), Narendra Jadhav's Untouchables (2005), and Baby Kamble's The Prisons We Broke (2009), have expanded the canon of post-colonial literature and aesthetics in Indian and western universities. And, above all, electoral politics, affirmative action and the space afforded by civil society for mobilisation have enabled a suppressed community to recover agency and speak back to codified power. Yet caste-based discrimination persists in significant areas of social interaction. In short, the one vital good that the justice project tries to secure – respect/self-respect – continues to elude attempts at repair of historical injustice.

Unrealised justice project

The impact of disrespect upon the Dalit community cannot be underestimated. Disrespect reinforces other injustices confronted by the community in everyday life. And it disrupts social relationships based on the reciprocal obligation to see each other as equal and as worthy of dignity. Disrespect demoralises and diminishes human beings and erodes their confidence to participate in the multiple transactions of society with a degree of assurance. Despite historical struggles against rank discrimination in words, verse, and collective action, despite acceptance of historical wrongs by the leaders of the freedom struggle, despite the mobilisation of the Dalit community, and despite affirmative action, caste-based discrimination continues to relentlessly stalk the political biography of independent India. Till today what caste we belong to continues to profile social relations, codify inequalities, govern access to opportunities and propel multiple atrocities. The project of justice remains unrealised.

Indians have failed to secure justice for their own fellow citizens. It is time to express solidarity. Constitutional and legislative provisions and Supreme Court judgments are important, but they are simply not enough. If the right to justice is violated, citizens should be exercised and agitated about this violation. For this to occur, for society to feel deeply about violations of basic rights, the right to justice has to be underpinned by a political consensus. A consensus on what constitutes, or should constitute, the basic rules of society is central to our collective lives. A social movement geared to attack caste-based discrimination can remind us that denial of respect is a problem for non-Dalits as well.

Shrugging off indifference

To put the issue starkly, if respect is compromised, the project of redistributive justice has borne inadequate results. One of the most essential goods human beings are entitled to, the right to dignity, has not been realised. For this right to be recognised, social movements that speak the language of equality for their own particular constituencies have to come together and support the idea of building a political consensus on what is due to all human beings, what should be done for them and what should not be done to them.

We read of such movements in pre-Independence India. In independent India, the onus of battling discrimination has fallen onto the shoulders of Dalits. The rest of society wends its way without regard for the infirmities of its fellow citizens. We have to shrug off indifference and shoulder responsibility. It is only when we concentrate on the construction of a political consensus in society, that the uncomfortable distinction between 'us' and 'them' that bedevils much of the case for remedial justice will dissolve. We have to do this because disadvantaged communities are not only likely to be economically deprived but also socially marginalised, politically insignificant in terms of the politics of participation as distinct from the 'vote', humiliated, dismissed and subjected to intense disrespect through practices of everyday life. Anyone who suffers from these multiple disadvantages will find it impossible to participate in social, economic and cultural transactions as an equal.

Certainly, efforts have been made to repair historical injustice. But the ideology of discrimination continues to dominate despite a multitude of constitutional provisions, laws, affirmative action policies and political mobilisation. We can no longer assume that some redistribution of resources will lead to respect and self-respect. The politics of voice can achieve a great deal in the public sphere, but if the ideology of discrimination continues to shape social relations, much of the gains are lost. One of the most essential goods human beings are entitled to, the right to respect, has not been realised.

Neera Chandhoke is a former Professor of Political Science at Delhi University

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

Dr. P. Jeyakumar, Dr. C. Senthilkumar and Dr. S. Gopinathan of Kilpauk Medical College, Madras, want to know when to use 'dwell' and when to use 'live'.

'Dwell' is a literary word. Poets use this more often than others. 'Live' is the word that is ordinarily used. Never say 'I dwell in Mambalam'. You live in the world of reality and 'dwell' in the world of ideas and imagination. He dwells in a world of fantasy. Doctors dwell in the world of medicine. 'To dwell on or upon' means 'to write or speak at length.' This can be used in writing and speech. The minister dwelt on the achievements of his party. She dwelt on the beauty of her dog to the annoyance of her listeners.

Miss V. R. Tripathi of Varanasi wants to know how to use the word 'awhile'.

'Awhile' means 'for a short time.' You are tired; rest awhile. They sang awhile. He stammered awhile. 'For' and 'awhile' don't go together. 'For' is implicit in 'awhile'. You shouldn't say 'wait for awhile.' But you can say 'Wait for a while.' 'Think of the use of 'awhile' for a while.'

Mr. B. R. Pantulu, Programme Executive, All India Radio, Pondicherry wants to know why a TV set is referred to as the 'idiot box'.

When you watch TV for a long time and when it becomes a habit, you cease to think for yourself. TV does the thinking for you and you become a mindless idiot. It is not the set that is an idiot. It makes you into an idiot. The box that makes you into an idiot is an idiot box. 'Idiot board' is a mechanical device used to prompt a speaker on television.

Several readers want to know whether the expression 'grammatical error' is correct. They wonder how anything grammatical can be erroneous.

Grammatical here means 'relating to grammar.' 'Grammatical error means 'error relating to grammar.' So the expression is correct.

Mr. R. K. Patil of Bijapur wants to know the pronunciation of the word 'education.'

The 'e' in the word is pronounced like the 'e' in 'bed'. 'du' rhymes with 'few' and 'hue'. 'du' is pronounced like the word 'due'. 'cation; rhymes with 'station' and 'nation.' The 'c' is pronounced 'k'. The stress is on the third syllable 'ca.'

THE DAILY QUIZ

A quiz on Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

S. Venkataraghavan

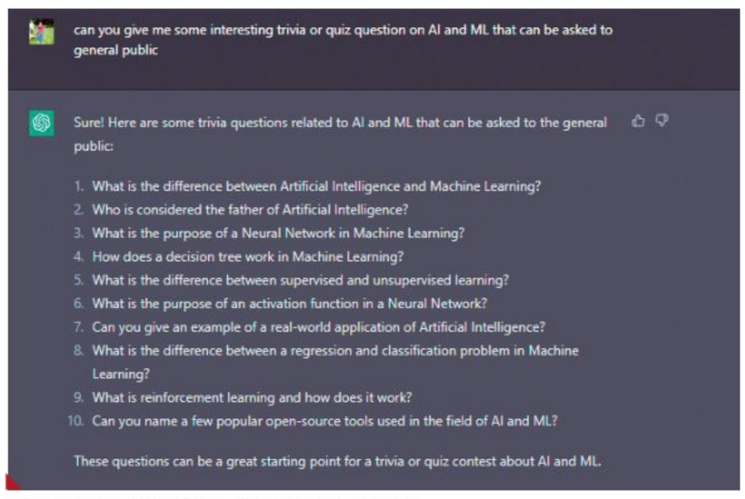
QUESTION 1
Who (and when) is believed to have coined the term Artificial Intelligence(AI)?

QUESTION 2
Which Indian company was part of the founding team of Open AI and donated towards the initial $1 billion Open AI pledge

QUESTION 3
By what name was the scary thought experiment, which states that "an otherwise benevolent artificial superintelligence (AI) in the future would be incentivised to create a virtual reality simulation to torture anyone who knew of its potential existence but did not directly contribute to its advancement or development" called? This originated in a 2010 post at discussion board LessWrong, a technical forum focused on analytical rational enquiry.

QUESTION 4
What is the name given to google's next-generation language and conversation capability powered by their Language Model for Dialogue Applications (or LaMDA for short)?

QUESTION 5
By what name do we know the test of a machine's ability to exhibit intelligent behaviour equivalent to, or indistinguishable from, that of a human?


can you give me some interesting trivia or quiz question on AI and ML that can be asked to general public
Sure! Here are some trivia questions related to AI and ML that can be asked to the general public:
1. What is the difference between Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning?
2. Who is considered the father of Artificial Intelligence?
3. What is the purpose of a Neural Network in Machine Learning?
4. How does a decision tree work in Machine Learning?
5. What is the difference between supervised and unsupervised learning?
6. What is the purpose of an activation function in a Neural Network?
7. Can you give an example of a real-world application of Artificial Intelligence?
8. What is the difference between a regression and classification problem in Machine Learning?
9. What is reinforcement learning and how does it work?
10. Can you name a few popular open-source tools used in the field of AI and ML?
These questions can be a great starting point for a trivia or quiz contest about AI and ML.

What is the name of this chatbot in the image

Answers to the previous day's quiz:
1.An accomplished director, he was a narrator of a radio series in the 1930s in the U.S. **Answer: Orson Welles, The Mercury Theatre on the Air**
2. He started out at the age of 19 in AIR and co-authored the book, "The Winning way". **Ans: Harsha Bhogle**
3. Who christened the term "Akashvani" for AIR? **Ans: Rabindranath Tagore**
4.A pejorative term to describe telegraphy operators who lacked Morse code skills, it is now used to describe themselves as a matter of pride. **Ans: Ham radio**
5. This programme of devotional songs aired every year during a festival in West Bengal. **Ans: Mahisasura Mardini. Birendra Kumar Bhadra**
6. Visual: **Ans: Walter Kaufmann**

Early Birds
S Sampath Kumar — M. Suresh Kumar — Jagadish S — Moumita Roy Basu

Word of the day

festoon:
adorn (a place) with chains, garlands, or other decorations

Synonyms: decorate, grace, beautify, ornament, adorn, embellish

Usage: *The staffroom was festooned with balloons and streamers.*

Pronunciation: https://bit.ly/festoonpro

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Row over skit: Seven students and two college staff arrested

Jain (deemed-to-be) University tenders an unconditional apology over skit performed at fest

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The city police arrested nine persons, including seven students, who staged a controversial skit at the Jain (Deemed-to-be) University fest, which has now drawn the ire of many sections of society for its allegedly casteist content.

This came hours after the university suspended six students and tendered an unconditional apology, for the skit that reportedly mocked Dalits and B.R. Ambedkar.

A video clip of a portion of the skit, posted by some students on social media, had gone viral.

The Siddapura police who had registered a case under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, acting on a complaint from a Social Welfare Department official, arrested the seven students, the dean of the college, and the chief programme coordinator on Monday.

The accused have also been booked under Sections 153A, 295A and 149 of the Indian Penal Code, all of which deal with offences for creating enmity between groups in the society. The arrested were produced before a magistrate who remanded them in three days police custody.

Meanwhile, the university issued an unconditional public apology on Monday. "Jain University offers its unconditional apology to all who have been hurt by the skit performed by the students," the statement said, adding it had made internal inquiries and taken all necessary disciplinary action.

"Jain University and all its centres, which come under its umbrella, have always been known for their secular policies and the institution does not subscribe to any of the views presented in the skit... Certain words used against Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar is strongly condemned and the university on its part totally disagrees and disapproves such views and comments," the statement read.

The theatre group that staged the skit, *The Delroys Boys*, also in their statement on social media, following the outrage, claimed that they stood by the marginalised communities.

Timings
BENGALURU

TUESDAY, FEB. 14	
RISE	06:43 SET 18:25
RISE	00:41 SET 12:22
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 15	
RISE	06:42 SET 18:25
RISE	01:41 SET 13:17
THURSDAY, FEB. 16	
RISE	06:42 SET 18:25
RISE	02:44 SET 14:17

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	31	21
Mysuru	33	13
Bengaluru	31	17

Bengaluru Today
31°C The weather will be dry. Morning will be cool with mist and haze. Day will be slight warm. Night also will be cool and hazy.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
31°C A dry weather to continue. Day will be slight warm. Night will be slight cool with haze and mist.

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Special court convicts MLA, two sons, and five officials for corruption

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A special court on Monday convicted Nehru C. Olekar, BJP MLA from Haveri, his two sons, and five officials of Haveri city municipal council in a corruption case of 2012 and sentenced them to two years simple imprisonment.

B. Jayantha Kumar, judge of the special court set up to exclusively deal with criminal cases related to MPs/MLAs in Karnataka, passed the order, while convicting the MLA under Section 13(1)(d) and 13(2) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 for abusing power and other provisions of the Indian Penal Code.

The other convicts are: Manjunath N. Olekar and Devaraj N. Olekar, sons of the MLA, and H.K. Rudrappa, then Haveri Muncipal Commissioner and now retired, H.K. Kallappa, then Assistant Executive Engineer and now retired, Shivakumar Puttaiah Kamadod, then Second Division Assistant, Chandramohan P.S, then Assistant Executive Engineer and now retired, and K. Krishna Naik, Assistant Engineer.

Meanwhile, the special court granted bail to all convicted persons as the sentence was below three years to enable them to move the High Court challenging the conviction.

The MLA had abused his position as a public servant and dishonestly and fraudulently obtained pecuniary advantage to his two children by creating false work done certificates and ensuring that certain civil contracts were awarded to his sons, the court held.

OM SHRI GURU BASAVA LINGAYA NAMAHA
HIREMATH SAMSTHAN VIDYAPEETH TRUST(R), BHALKI
SHRI CHANNABASAVESHWAR GURUKUL RESIDENTIAL PU SCIENCE COLLEGE
KARDYAL-585 413 - TQ. BHALKI - DIST. BIDAR - www.cbgurukul.in
CHAMPIONS OF THE JEE MAINS PHASE - I - 2023
VINAY RAMRAO 99.54
PHY : 98.58
CHEM : 99.74
MATHS : 99.04
Application No. : 230310629059
KALYAN KARANATAKA TOPPER
DINESH 99.24
ABHISHEK 98.24
MAHADEV 97.96
SHARAN 97.41
SAIRAJ 97.16
SONAKSHI 96.69
HARISH 96.60
PRASANNA 95.65
KIRANKUMAR 95.39
ABHISHEK 95.05
ANJANA 94.37
SURABHI 94.34
TEJASHWINI 94.06
SAHIL 93.76
BHANUTEJA 93.36
VINAYKUMAR 92.61
VINOD 91.22
KUSUMANJALI 90.60
SIDRAM 90.27
100+STUDENTS SECURED ELIGIBILITY FOR JEE MAINS 2023
ADMISSION ANNOUNCEMENT -2023-24
JEE MAINS + ADVANCED AND NEET (UG)
CONTACT: - 8147740402, 7353304503

ULB Code : 803162
Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
ಸ್ವಚ್ಛ ಭಾರತ ಒಂದು ಹೆಜ್ಜೆ ಸ್ವಚ್ಛತೆಯೆಡೆಗೆ
PROPER DISPOSAL OF WASTE
is Everyone's Responsibility.
Government of Karnataka
BBMP
BSWML
Bangalore Solid Waste Management Limited
Wastes that are not properly disposed of create an unclean environment and causes environmental pollution.
WET WASTE TO GREEN BIN
Kitchen Waste
Vegetables/fruit peels
Cooked food/Leftovers
Egg shells
Chicken/fish bones
Rotten fruits
DRY WASTE TO BAG OR BLUE BIN
Plastic covers/bottles/boxes
toffee wrappers
Plastic cups/Milk/Curd packets
Newspaper/Magazines
Stationery/Junk mail
Cardboard cartons
SANITARY WASTE TO YELLOW BAG OR BIN
Diapers/Sanitary napkins
Bandages/
Condoms/
Hair/Nails/
Used tissues/
Expired medicines
The toxins that come out of the burnt garbage not only cause severe respiratory problems but are also more likely to spread the flame to the adjacent environment.
Waste Management
Right
Wrong
Segregate wet waste, dry waste and sanitary waste at source.
Process the wet waste into manure at the home level itself.
Segregate the dry waste and give it to the garbage collection cart.
Don't throw garbage everywhere.
Don't burn garbage.
Do not throw medical waste, sanitary pads in the toilet.
Bengaluru is our beloved city. Keeping only our home clean will not ensure our streets and neighborhoods clean. Collective effort from all needs to be started as campaign, where every one of us should act as a Waste Warrior and contribute to keeping our environment clean and tidy.
BBMP is thriving to keep the city clean and tidy .
But, far more effort is welcome from citizens. Waste Warrior doesn't litter in public places, educates others on the importance of using waste bins and most importantly segregates the waste in their house.
With over a crore Waste Warriors, working together we can surely restore our Garden City to all its former glory and more.
Swachh Surveksha-2023 - Our City Our Pride
VOTE FOR YOUR CITY
Clean Bengaluru, Healthy Bengaluru is Responsibility of all.
Wear Mask
Follow Physical Distancing
Maintain Hand Hygiene
Get yourself voluntarily vaccinated
Administrator BBMP
Chief Commissioner BBMP
To safeguard public property and to abjure violence is the Fundamental Duty of every Indian.

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A BG-BGE

Industry bodies slam proposal to levy pension and gratuity charges onto tariffs

KPTCL had urged KERC to recover ₹2,803 crore from Escoms which would be passed on to the consumer tariffs

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

In a public hearing called by the Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (KERC) on Monday, Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited (KPTCL) received flak from industry bodies for a proposal to recover ₹2,734 crore from Escoms, towards the State government's portion of additional employee cost towards pension and gratuity (P and G) expenditure.

Along with other prudent costs of up to ₹5.33 crore and a revenue gap of ₹64 crore, KPTCL had urged the commission to recover ₹2,803 crore from Escoms which would be passed onto the consumer tariffs.

The hearing reviewed the annual performance of 2021-22 and received objections for the tariff proposal submitted by KPTCL for 2023-24.

N. Manjula, Managing Director, KPTCL, said that during 2021-22, against an annual revenue requirement of ₹4,171 crore, around ₹4,106 crore was received from transmission tariff, resulting in a revenue gap of ₹64 crore.

Speaking on behalf of the Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FKCCI), Sridhar Prabhu, an advocate, questioned how the P&G expenditure could be passed onto tariffs, if the rule to recover it came into effect only from January 6, 2023.

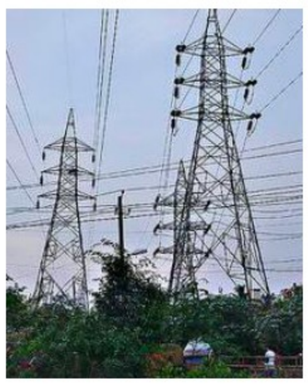
However, KPTCL officials retorted that there was a government order in November which said that P&G expenses should be collected by KPTCL and Escoms in 2023-24, until the next order is passed.

After hearing the objections, P. Ravi Kumar, Chairman, KERC, instructed officials to examine if the liability transfer had occurred. "The rule asks to claim the government portion of it. If the liability is with the government, then it might not be yours to claim. Examine this thoroughly," he said.

Expenditure exponentially higher for UG cables

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

KPTCL officials revealed that there is a fund crunch to convert overhead cables to underground cables. "As this is the election time, there is pressure from every corner to put overhead cables underground. Without getting into the nitty-gritties, the conversion would require over ₹12,000 crore," said N. Manjula, MD, KPTCL.



15,100 MW peak load

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Under its achievements, KPTCL listed that on February 8, a peak load of 15,100 MW was met by its transmission network.

Similarly, on March 18, 2022, a peak load of 14,818 MW was recorded.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for the general public to notify that my clients Dr.A.Manjunath,aged about 53 years, S/o late B.Anjinappa and Smt.Chitra Manjunath, W/o Dr.A.Manjunath, aged about 42 years, both are residing at No.515, 24th Main Road, HSR layout, II Sector, Bengaluru - 560102, are intending to purchase the House property bearing BBMP No.551, situated at HSR layout, (Hosur – Sarjapura Road layout), Presently at 16th A Cross, Sector VI, Bengaluru Present BBMP Ward No.174, measuring East to west 12.19 meters and North to south 18 meters in all measuring 219.42 sq meters, RCC roofed house consists ground, first and second floors which is morefully described in the schedule hereto from one Mr.K.Lathif Sharief, son of late Abdul Khader, aged about 68 years and Mrs.Shabreen Taj, wife of K.A.Lathif Sharief, aged about 54 years, both are presently residing at No.551, 16th A Cross, Sector VI, HSR layout, Bengaluru for a valuable sale consideration. Further it is informed that the said Mr.K.A.Lathif Sharief and Mrs.Shabreen Taj have jointly acquired the schedule property under the Registered Sale deed dated 25.08.2018, vide Document No.JAY-1-05059/2018-19, stored in CD No.JAYD353, Book –I, in the office of the Sub Registrar, Jayanagar, Bengaluru City from Mrs.Lata Thomas and Mr.Tomy Thomas, have acquired the schedule property under the registered Sale deed dated 19.06.2003, vide Document No.5574/2003-04, stored in CD No.110, Book-I, in the office of the Sub Registrar, Bengaluru South Taluk, from their vendor Sri.K.Sridhar, son of R.Krishnamurthy. Whereas the Bengaluru Development Authority have allotted the vacant site bearing No.551 in favour of Sri.K.Sridhar and executed a Registered Sale deed dated 28.01.2022, vide Document No.14495/2001-02, Book –I, Vol No.449, Pages 17 to 25 registered in the office of the Additional District Registrar, Bengaluru Urban district. If any person/s has got any objection or claim over schedule property may kindly file their claim to the under signed within fifteen (15) days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which it will be presumed that nobody has got any objection or claim over the same thereby my clients will proceed to purchase the schedule property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the House property bearing BBMP No.551, situated at HSR layout, (Hosur – Sarjapura Road layout), Presently at 16th A Cross, Sector VI, Bengaluru Present BBMP Ward No.174, measuring East to west 12.19 meters and North to south 18 meters in all measuring 219.42 sq meters, RCC roofed house consists ground, first and second floors, ground floor measures 17 square, first floor measures 17 square and second floor measures 4 square, total constructed area measuring 38 squaresand bounded on East by : Site No.550, West by : Site No.552, North by : Road, South by: Site No.564,

Sri.S.K.Srinivas, Advocate,
No.21/2, 3rd Floor, Gandhinagar 1st Main,
Bengaluru -560009 Mob No.9845382238

PUBLIC NOTICE

The general public are hereby notified that our client Sri.B.B Jain S/o Sri.T.C Jain has lost original Sale Deed dated 14.08.2003, Bearing Document No.8711/2003-04, Stored in CD No. 100, registered at the office of the Sub-Registrar, K.R. Puram, Bangalore pertaining to the southern portion of the Site No. 28, in Property No. 56/1, situated at Varanasi @ Jinkethimmanahali Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore measuring East to West on the Northern side 30 feet and on the southern side 34 feet and North to South 30 feet, in all measuring 960 Square feet, under BBMP limits and bounded on the East by: Site No.27, West by : Road and Private Property, North by : Remaining portion of Site No. 28 and South by : Site No.26 . In this regard a Police Complaint dated 09.02.2023 has been filed/ lodged by our client with Karnataka State Police in Lost Report No.0469074/2023. If any person/s finds the said document kindly inform the advocate stated herein. If any person/s misuses the said document, the same is not binding on our clients and they shall do so at their own risk.

C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN M.A., L.L.B.
Advocates & Legal Consultants
Bangalore-43. M: 9845846428, 7204863700

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby informed to General Public that, **Mr. Ravindranath** S/o. Late K G Ramakrishnaiah and **Mrs. Prema** W/o. Mr. Ravindranath, both residing at No. 18/1, Mico Layout, Attiguppe, Vijaynagar, Bangalore-560040 availed the loan from State Bank of India, RACPC Malleshwaram Branch by depositing the Original Title Deeds with the Bank, in respect of the below mentioned property. It is informed that Original Sale Deed, Dated 14.08.2003 and duly registered as Document No. 16456/03-04 of Book-I and stored at CD No. 140 before the office of the Sub-registrar, Bangalore North Taluk and Rectification Deed, Dated 04.09.2004 and duly registered as Document No. BLN-1-25261/2004-05 of Book-I and stored at CD No. BLND53 before the office of the Sub-registrar, Bangalore North Taluk is misplaced/lost and not traceable in the above mentioned branch. A Complaint is also lodged in Crime Branch, Bangalore City Police on 12.02.2023 (Lost Report No.0471083/2023), in respect of misplaced/loss of above mentioned Original Title Deeds of the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the vacant Site bearing **No. 294,** katha No. 353, formed in the land bearing Converted Sy. No. 86/4 vide O.M. No. B.Dis.ALN.SR.(N)135/93-94, Dated 28.02.1994 issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner (Revenue), Bangalore District, Situated at **Mallathahalli Village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk** measuring East to West 38 feet and North to South 30 feet and bounded on: **East by : Site No. 289, West by : Road, North by : Site No. 293, South by : Site No. 295.**

Any person/s having objections or claims, shall with documentary evidence lodge their objection/claim to the above said Branch or to the address below mentioned Within **15 days** from the date of this Notice. Persons finding the above title deeds may kindly return the same to the undersigned and if any objections in this regard may contact the undersigned, failing which the above mentioned branch shall proceed with the further transaction.

T.C. Shashidhara
In-Curia Law Chambers,
Advocates & Legal Consultants,
No. 49, 1st Floor, Opp. 12th Cross,
Cubbonpet Main Road,
Bangalore-560002.
M : 9980139320, 8088022018

CHENNAI METRO RAIL LIMITED
(A Joint Venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of Tamil Nadu)
METROS, Anna Salai,
Nandanam, Chennai - 600 035

NIT No: CMRL / PHASE-II / SYS / C4-AFA03b / 2023
E-procurement Tender-Funding agency- New Development Bank
International Competitive Bidding
e-TENDER No : PHASE-II / SYS / C4-AFA03b / 2023

CMRL invites open e-tender through e-procurement portal from reputed, experienced, financially sound, eligible applicants, who fulfill the qualification criteria as mentioned in the tender through International Competitive Bidding (ICB) as detailed below:

"Design, Manufacture, Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning & Maintenance of Station Level Equipment For Automatic Fare Collection (AFC) System for CMRL Phase II – Corridor 4"

Please refer websites
1) **www.chennaimetrorail.org** or
2) **https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app**

For further information.

DIPR / 894 / TENDER / 2023
சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம் சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்
Director (System & Operations)

Directorate of Medical Education
BMC&RI (Old Building) 1st Floor, Fort, K.R. Road,
Bengaluru - 560002. Ph: 080-22870060 Fax: 080-22875798
E-mail: dmekarnataka@yahoo.com

No: ME/Tender/41/2022-23 **Date: 13-02-2023**

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System) (Through e-Procurement Portal)

E-Tenders are invited for the Supply / Installation / Commissioning of **MRI and CT Scanner to Medical Colleges / Hospitals.** Tender Document and E.M.D details can be viewed, downloaded & applied only through the e-Procurement portal. Interested tenderers have to register in the e-Procurement portal, details of which can be viewed in the Website: **http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

Commencement date for Uploading of Tenders Dt: 14-02-2023

Pre-Bid Meeting Dt: 17-02-2023 at 11.30 AM

Last date for Uploading the Tenders Dt: 28-02-2023 before 4.30 PM

Date of Opening of Technical Bid Dt: 02-03-2023

For further details contact **Director of Medical Education, BMC&RI (Old Building), 1st Floor, Fort, K.R. Road, Bengaluru - 560002.**

DIPR/CP/4669/Adverto/2022-23
Sd/-
Director of Medical Education

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public are hereby informed that, our client **Smt.Sampangamma** has lost the original Sale Certificate dated 02-11-1969, registered on 04-11-1969, registered as Document No.2558/1969-70, in respect of property bearing Site No.120, situated at **Maruthi Nagar, Venkatala Village, Yelahanka, Bangalore,** near Xerox Shop at Yelahanka New Town, Bangalore. If anybody found the said document please contact this Nos. 9844155041 and 7592891175.

V.S.Rai & Associates, LAW FIRM
No.23,"Venkatadri" 6th Main,
5th Cross, S.R.Nagar, Bangalore-27.

THE HINDU

DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any published in this newspaper. THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., the Publisher & Owner of this newspaper, does not vouch for the authenticity of any advertisement or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Director/s, Employees of this newspaper/company be held responsible/liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
Office of the Additional Chief Engineer, Rushikulya Bahuda Basin, Berhampur-760004
e-mail id : se_sicbam@yahoo.com

e - Procurement Notice No. ACE, RBB- 40 / 2022-23

1. Type of Work : **Flood Protection Work.**
2. Total No. of Works : **01 (One) No.**
3. Amount put to Tender : **Rs.749.54 Lakh**
4. Period of Completion : **12 (Twelve) Calendar months**

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Bid Amount (Rs. in lakh)	Availability & Submission of Bid On-line
Additional Chief Engineer, Rushikulya Bahuda Basin, Berhampur	**ACE,RBB (BNID)-99/2022-23**	**749.54**	From **15.02.2023, 10.00 AM** to **02.03.2023, 5.00 PM**

Date of opening of the Technical Bid :- **03.03.2023 at 11.30 A.M.**

Further details can be seen from the Govt. Website "**www.tendersodisha.gov.in**".

Additional Chief Engineer,
Rushikulya Bahuda Basin, Berhampur

A-1153 : OIPR-32411/11/0055/2223

Government of Karnataka
Rural Development & Panchayat Department
Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Division, Chitradurga
Phone No.: 08194-234488 e-mail: eerdwsd.chd@gmail.com
No.: R.W.S.&S./D/C/EE/B4/Tender/2022-23/2015 Date: 09.02.2023

Tender Notice

On behalf of the Hon'ble Governor of Karnataka tender is invited subject to Standard Tender Document KW-1 Rules in e-procurement portal in single cover from contractors registered in appropriate class with Superintending Engineer, Panchayat Raj Engineering Circle, Davanagere/Chief Engineer, Panchayat Raj Engineering Department, Bengaluru for Multi Village Drinking Water Supply Scheme works of Rs. 3600.00 lakhs in V.V. Pura and 11 other people Habitations, Gudihalli and 15 other people Habitations and Goduddu and 10 other people Habitations from aimangala Phase-1 Multi Village Drinking Water Supply Scheme of Hiriyuru Taluk of Chitradurga District under J.J.M. Scheme for the year 2022-23. Date and time of Pre-bid Meeting: 17.02.2023, 11.15 Hrs. Last date for tender submission: 23.02.2023, 16.00 Hrs. Date of opening technical bid: 24.02.2023, 17.00 Hrs. & Date of opening financial bid: 27.02.2023, 16.00 Hrs. Details of work are published in the website https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in and for further information Executive Engineer, R.W.S.&S. Division, Chitradurga during office hours.

DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/994/2022-23 Sd/-Executive Engineer

CHENNAI METRO RAIL LIMITED
(A Joint Venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of Tamil Nadu)
METROS, Anna Salai,
Nandanam, Chennai - 600 035

INVITING e-TENDER

Contract Name	Request For Qualification (RFQ) for Empanelment of Consultancy Firms for Feasibility, Market Study and Providing Transaction Advisory Services including Bid Process Management Services For Built Up Spaces in Chennai Metro Rail Stations and For CMRL Land Parcels
Contract No	CMRL/ BD /Empanelment of Consultants- 500/1/2023
Documents can be downloaded from	15/02/2023 to 15/03/2023 up to 17:00 hrs through e- tendering website https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app.
Pre Proposal Meeting Date	22/02/2023 on 11:30 hrs at MetroS - Anna Salai, Nandanam, Chennai - 600035
Due Date of Proposal Submission	15/03/2023 up to 17:00 hours (IST)

For complete details, please visit e-procurement website: **http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app.** Any Corrigendum/Addendum to this publication, if any, would appear only on above mentioned website and will not be published in newspapers.

Tender inviting Authority:
Chief General Manager (P&BD), Chennai Metro Rail Limited,
MetroS -Anna Salai, Nandanam, Chennai-600035
www.chennaimetrorail.org. E-mail: krishnan.rm@cmrl.in

DIPR / 944 / TENDER / 2023
Chief General Manager (P&BD)
Chennai Metro Rail Limited

TAMIL NADU WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD
INVITATION OF BIDS–TWO COVER–ITEMWAR TENDER SYSTEM (E-Submission)
Third Call – Short Term

IFB No.	56, 57, 58 /F.CWSS to 667-Thiruvarur/JJM/ /SDO/CE-TNJ/2022/Dated.13.02.2023.
Fund	JJM Fund 2021-2022
Eligibility	Registered Class I Contractors (Civil)
Tender Invitee	The Chief Engineer, TWAD Board, Integrated Office Complex, First Floor, No. 243/2, Thanjavur-Trichy Main Road, Pillayarpatty, Thanjavur-613 403
Sale of Bid	**17.02.2023 to 04.03.2023 upto 15.00 hours (as per server time)**
EMD Payable	1.Online Mode through E-Tendering website **www.tntenders.gov.in** (OR) 2. Offline Mode Payable at IFB No.56 Executive Engineer, TWAD Board, Project Division, Thanjavur & IFB No.57 &58 RWS Division, Thiruvarur
Available website	E-Tendering website **www.tntenders.gov.in.**
Pre Bid meeting	**24.02.2023** at **11.00** hours at the office of the Chief Engineer, TWAD Board, Thanjavur
Bid Submission	**04.03.2023** upto **15.00** hours Digitally signed encrypted Tenders through E-Tendering portal **www.tntenders.gov.in**
Bid opening	**06.03.2023** at **15.30** hours at the office of the Tender Invitee through E-Tendering Portal.

IFB No.	Name of work	Approximate value of work (Rs. in Crore including GST)	Bid Security (Rs.in lakhs)
	CWSS to 667 Habitations in Thiruvarur, Nannilam, Koradachery, Kottur, Mannargudi & Thiruthuraipoondi Unions of Thiruvarur District under Jal Jeevan Mission fund - (Period of completion : 18 months, Trial Run : 6 months and Paid maintenance : 60 months) –**Package - I, II & III**		
56	Package-I	221.61	110.81
57	Package-II	283.24	141.62
58	Package-III	227.43	113.72

DIPR / 946 / TENDER / 2023 SAVE WATER, CONSERVE WATER, EVERY DROP COUNTS
"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம், சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்"
Chief Engineer(i/c) , TWAD Board, Thanjavur.

Form No.3 (See Regulation-15 (1)(a)]/16(3)

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL VISAKHAPATNAM
Ground & 1st Floor, 31-31-21, Sai Baba Street,
Narayana Bhawan, Dabagardens, Visakhapatnam-530020.

Case No. : O.A. No.472 OF 2022

Summons under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Act, read with Sub-rule (2A) of rule 5 of the Debt Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules, 1993.

HDFC Bank Limited, Lakshmipuram Branch, Guntur
And
M/s. Sita Rama Rice Mill and others

To,
1) **M/s. Sita Rama Rice Mill represented by its Managing Partner Sri. Vattikuti Satya Sai Babu,** D. No. 6-1-54, 6-1-55, Near Munipalle Main Road, Munipalle Village Panchayat, Ponnur Mandal, Guntur District-522124
2) **Sri. Vattikuti Satya Sai Babu, S/o. Sri. Chowdaramma,** Flat No. 302, Vattikuti Bommarillu, Near Municipal Office, Ponnur-522 124, Guntur District
3) **Sri. Vattikuti Venkata Rama Naidu, S/o. Sri. Chowdaramma,** Flat No.201, Vattikuti Bommarillu, Near Municipal Office, Ponnur-522 124, Guntur District
5) **Sri. Vattikuti Rama Rayulu, S/o. Sri. V. Sambasiva Rao,** D. No. 612, 2nd A Cross, P R Layout, Munnekollala, Marathahalli, Bangalore-560037
6) **Sri. Guttikonda Krishna Murthy, S/o. Sri. Ramaiah,** D. No. 6-1-54, & 6-1-55, Munipale Village,Pottunuru (Mandal), Guntur District.

SUMMONS BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

WHEREAS, **OA/472/2022** was listed before Hon'ble Presiding Officer/ Registrar on **02/06/2023.**

WHEREAS this Hon'ble Tribunal is pleased to issue summons / notice on the said Application under section 19(4) of the Act, (OA) filed against You for recovery of debts of **Rs.5,72,39,793.12 Ps** (Application along with copies of documents etc. annexed).

In accordance with sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Act, You, the Defendants are directed as under :-

(i) to show cause within thirty days of the Service of summons as to why relief prayed for should not be granted;
(ii) to disclose particulars of properties or assets other than properties and assets specified by the applicant under serial number 3A of the original application;
(iii) You are restrained from dealing with or disposing of secured assets or such other assets and properties disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application, pending hearing and disposal of the application for attachment of properties:
(iv) You shall not transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise, except in the ordinary course of Your business any of the assets over, which security interest is created and / or other assets and properties specified or disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application without the prior approval of the Tribunal;
(v) You shall be liable to account for the sale proceeds realized by sale of secured assets or other assets and properties in the ordinary course of business and deposit such sale proceeds in the account maintained with the bank or financial institutions holding security interest over such assets.

You are also directed to file the Written Statement with a copy thereof furnished to the applicant and to appear before **Presiding Officer/ Registrar on 17/02/2023 at 10:30 A.M.** failing the application shall be heard and decided in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal on this date : 06/02/2023
Signature of the Officer
Authorised to issue summons

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan Race Course Road
Bengaluru – 560 001. website : www.kiadb.in

No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-59/22/2022-23 **Date: 13.02.2023**

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK e – Procurement Portal Only)

Tender under two cover bid system is invited for the works mentioned below as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from Super Grade Electrical Contractors License issued from KCEI eligible Contractors who have got adequate financial resources, state of the art technology, suitable construction equipments, technical man power & sufficient past experience for the work of **"Providing Power Infrastructure to Mulwada Industrial Area, 2nd Phase, Vijayapura District"**.

Last date for submission of bids is: **24.02.2023 upto 04:30 pm**

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the E-Procurement Portal **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer-1, KIADB Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/4584/Zen/2022-23

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Mangaluru: 0824-2417575 • 2417580
Hubballi: 0836-2338600 • 2335700

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

WE, BOBBY Augustus and Komala Augustus parents of minor daughter Jacelyn Augustus, R/o # 12, Margondanahalli, K. R. Puram, Bengaluru-560036 have changed her name from Jacelyn Augustus to B. Kritika Augustus vide affidavit dated 10-02-2023 before Notary A. R. Muneer Ahmed, B'luru.

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SHAMEEM Begum, W/o Sajid Hussain, R/at No.7, B No.6th Street, Halasooru Shivaji Nagar, Bengaluru North, Bengaluru-560008 have changed my name to Shamim Begum vide Affidavit dated 13.02.2023 sworn before Notary G.B.Turamari, Bengaluru.

GARMENTS

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Mobile : 73495 98454
SUKHI ARCADE, 175, Chickpet Main Road, Bangalore - 560 053.

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Purvee Kumari D/o Sanjeev Kumar , residing at #159, 7th Cross, 3rd Lane, Teachers Colony, Near Skyline Apartment Road, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560078, changed my name to Purvee Raj for all purposes in future.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU
NOTICE TO THE RESPONDENT NOS. R1, 2, 6 AND 8
VIDE COURT ORDER DATED 03/02/2023
WRIT PETITION No.10316/2018 (GM-CPC)

SHRI. MOHAN .S S/o. SRIRAMALU, R/AT NO.62, SIRSI ROAD, CHAMARAJPET, BENGALURU-560 018. ... **PETITIONER**

-V/s-

SMT. S. MANJULA W/O. SHRI. T. VENKATSHAPPA, C/o V. JAGANNATHA RAO, (THOMBLE) R/O NO.30-3, 1ST FLOOR, 7TH MAIN, 7TH CROSS, DEVANATHACHAR STREET, DASAPPA GARDEN, CHAMARAJPET, BENGALURU-560 018. & OTHERS ... **RESPONDENTS**

TO,

RESPONDENT NOS: 1, 2, 6 & 8

1. SMT. S. MANJULA W/O SHRI. T.VENKATSHAPPA, C/O. V. JAGANNATHA RAO, (THOMBLE) R/O NO.30-3, 1ST FLOOR, 7TH MAIN, 7TH CROSS, DEVANATHACHAR STREET, DASAPPA GARDEN, CHAMARAJPET, BENGALURU-560 018. **2. SHRI T. VENKATESHAPPA** S/O SHRI THIMMAIAH, C/O. SHRI. V. JAGNNATHA RAO, (THOMBLE), R/O NO.30-3, 1ST FLOOR, 7TH MAIN, 7TH CROSS, DEVANATHACHAR STREET, DASAPPA GARDEN, CHAMARAJPET, BENGALURU-560 018. **6 SHRI. S. JAGADISH** C/O. SRI. THIMANNA, NO.192, 2ND CROSS, ANANATHA RAMAIAH COMPOUND, AZAD NAGAR, BENGALURU-560 018. **8 SHRI. S. NARAYANAMURTHY** C/O. J.S. MOBILE REPAIR SHOP, NEAR HOTEL NEW GUIDE, NO.5, NAVAB HYDER ALI KHAN MAIN ROAD, KALASIPALYAM, BENGALURU-560 002.

Whereas, a Writ Petition filed by the above named petitioner under Article 227 of the Constitution of India, praying to issue Writ of Certiorari and set aside the Order dated 03/01/2018 passed in O.S.No. 8358/2014 by the VII Additional City Civil Judge (CCH No.19), at Bengaluru vide Annexure-A, has been registered by this Court.

Notice is hereby given to you to appear in this Court either in person or through counsel duly instructed or through someone authorised by law, to act for you in the above Writ Petition on **06/03/2023** at 10.30 A.M. in case you intend to contest the Writ Petition. If you fail to appear, the same will be dealt with, heard and decided in your absence.

ISSUED UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THIS COURT, ON 07TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2023.

BY ORDER OF THE COURT,
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR, HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA, BANGALORE.

Meeting today on extension of 50% rebate period

As many as 52.11 lakh traffic cases settled and ₹152 crore collected across Karnataka in the nine-day national-level Lok Adalat

Justice B. Veerappa, judge of the High Court of Karnataka and Executive Chairperson of the Karnataka State Legal Services Authority, addressing presspersons in Bengaluru on Monday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The national-level Lok Adalat held on February 11 registered amicable settlement of a record 52.11 lakh pending traffic rule violation cases across the State, yielding ₹152 crore, following the 50% rebate offered on the fine amount by the Karnataka government, as per recommendation by the Karnataka State Legal Services Authority (KSLSA).

Justice B. Veerappa, judge of the High Court of Karnataka and Executive Chairperson of KSLSA, told presspersons on Monday that the offer of rebate received positive response.

The KSLSA will now consider recommending extension of the rebate period, as per a demand from the public and also the Bengaluru city traffic police, as the Special Commissioner (Traffic) has written to the KSLSA seeking extension of the rebate period for two more weeks, he said.

Justice Veerappa said the KSLSA had mooted the proposal for offering rebate three months ago, but the government had initially hesitated to accept the proposal as the Finance Department raised objections.

"After a lot of effort, we were able to persuade the government," he added.

Though a similar rebate was offered in Telangana State, the public response was not in the magnitude as it has been in Karnataka, Justice Veerappa said, while pointing out that the media played a vital role in creating awareness.

It would have taken several years for the police to collect this fine amount, which has now been paid by the public in just nine days, he said, while adding that the KSLSA will hold a meeting on Tuesday, to decide on the request for extension.

He said that a total of 64,13,608 lakh cases, including 1.87 lakh cases pending in the courts, 62.26 lakh pre-litigation cases (which include 52.11 lakh traffic cases) were amicably settled during the Lok Adalat.

As many as 670 matrimonial cases were settled amicably.

Man, grandson killed within 12 hours in separate tiger attacks

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

A tribal belonging to Jenu Kuruba community was killed in a tiger attack on the boundary of Nagarahole National Park near Kutta in Kodagu district on Monday. The victim, Raju, 70, had stepped out of his home around 6.30 a.m. when he was attacked by the tiger.

The incident took place near Hulikal Anti-Poaching Camp close to Nanachi Gate of Nagarahole range.

Raju's death is the second in the family within 12 hours as his 12-year-old grandson Chetan was also killed under similar circumstances on Sunday evening while harvesting coffee in a plantation abutting the forest, also near Kutta.

B.N. Murthy, Conservator of Forests, Kodagu circle, said that combing operations had been launched. Mr. Murthy said though the tiger was sighted in the area, it retreated into the jungle following the commotion caused by the congregation of people at the spot.

In Bengaluru, Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs J.C. Madhuswamy informed the legislative Assembly that strict action will be taken against Forest Department officials if their laxity is the reason for the death of the 12-year-old boy and his 75-year-old grandfather in tiger attacks in separate incidents within 12 hours.

CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL KOLLEGAL
CHAMARAJANAGAR DISTRICT

NO. MUNI/KGL/E.S/TENDER/CR/01/2022-23
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : ನಂ:ಮುನಿ/ಕೊನಸ/ತಾ.ವಿ/ಟೆಂಡರ್/01/2022–23
Date : 03-02-2023

SHORT TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-procurement portal only)

The City Municipal Commissioner, Kollegal Chamarajanagar District, invites e-procurement short term tender from eligible contractors under KW-4 document Under Work details as follows. 1) **Name of work:** Development of road from Bastipura Ashraya layout to SWM landfill site channel road in CMC Kollegal limits under 2021-22 15th Finance tied Grants (DMA/2022-23/RD/WORK_INDENT 143494) **Estimate Cost : 105.30 Lakhs, EMD Amount : 158000, Period of Completion : 06 Months. Last date for uploading of completed tender documents : 23-02-2023 at 5.30 pm,** Prebid Meeting Venue & date : **17-02-2023 at 11.00 am** (CMC Kollegal Office) **Last date of receiving tender 23-02-2023 at 5.30 pm,** Date of opening of tenders technical bids : 27-02-2023 at 11.00 am & Date of opening of Financial bids : Informed after Successful technical Bid Contractors, Interested contractors shall register on the e-procurement platform to participate in this tender. Contractors can download the tender documents from e-procurement platform (www.erpoc.karnataka.gov.in). Tenders shall be submitted electronically at www.erpoc.karnataka.gov.in. EMD and tender processing fees shall also be paid electronically.

Sd/- President
City Municipal Council
Kollegal

Sd/- Standing Committee Chairman
City Municipal Council
Kollegal

Sd/- Commissioner
City Municipal Council
Kollegal

ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಸಂ.ಇ/ಚಾ.ನಗರ575/2022–23

ನಗರಸಭಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ನಂಜನಗೂಡು
ನಂಜನಗೂಡು–571301, ಮೈಸೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಕಛೇರಿ ದೂರವಾಣಿ: 08221–226236
ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್:www.nanjanaguducity.mrc.gov.in, ಇಮೇಲ್:itstaff_ulb_nanjangud@yahoo.co.in

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:.ನ.ಸ.ನಂ/ತಾಂಶಾ/22–23ನೇ ಎಸ್.ಎಫ್.ಸಿ ವಿಶೇಷ&24.10%/ಟೆಂ/2022–23 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 08.02.2023

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ)

ನಂಜನಗೂಡು ನಗರಸಭಾ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 2022–23ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಎಸ್.ಎಫ್.ಸಿ ವಿಶೇಷ ಅನುದಾನ ಹಾಗೂ 2022–23ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಶೇ.24.10, 7.25 & 5%ರ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳ ವಿವಿಧ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಸೇವೆಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಮೂಲಕ ನೀರು ಸರಬರಾಜು ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆಗೆ ಮಾನವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಒದಗಿಸಲು ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಚಾಲ್ತಿ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಅರ್ಹ ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ KW-1, KW-3ರ ನಿಯಮಗಳ ಅನ್ವಯ ಹಾಗೂ 1999 ಹಾಗೂ 2000ರ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಗೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟು ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕವಾಗಿ ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು **http://eproc.karnataka.nic.in** ನಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಷರತ್ತು, ಇಎಂಡಿ ಹಾಗೂ ದಾಸ್ತಾವೇಜನ್ನು ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿದೆ.

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ	ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಮೀಸಲಾತಿ
1.	DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT144472/CALL-2	94.50	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ
2.	DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT144942	4.72	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ
3.	DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT144941	11.67	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ
4.	DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT144940	3.70	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ
5.	DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT144939	10.98	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ
6.	NGD/CAO/LMV/T01/2022-23	7.08	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ
7.	CMC/NJD/WS/CONTRACT LABOUR/2023	53.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ
8.	DMA/2022-23/IND15030	8.71	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ

ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕಡೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 22.02.2023 ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ, ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24.02.2023 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ. ಸೂಚನೆ: 1. ಕಾರಣಾಂತರಗಳಿಂದ ಮೇಲೆ ತಿಳಿಸಿದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರೆ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳಾದಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಪತ್ರಿಕೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸೂಚಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು **http://eproc.karnataka.nic.in** ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದು. **2.** ಜಿ.ಎಸ್.ಟಿ ತೆರಿಗೆಯನ್ನು ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕವಾಗಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಬಿಲ್ಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಸೇರಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/–(ಶ್ರೀ ಹೆಚ್.ಎಸ್.ಮಹದೇವಸ್ವಾಮಿ)
ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು
ನಗರಸಭೆ, ನಂಜನಗೂಡು

ಸಹಿ/–(ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ನಾಗಮಣಿ)
ಉಪಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು
ನಗರಸಭೆ, ನಂಜನಗೂಡು

ಸಹಿ/– (ಶ್ರೀ ರಾಜಣ್ಣ.ಎಂ)
ಪೌರಾಯುಕ್ತರು
ನಗರಸಭೆ, ನಂಜನಗೂಡು

DIPR/MYS/KAVITA/1000/2022-23

ಆಯುಷ್ ಇಲಾಖೆ
ಶ್ರೀ ಜಯಚಾಮರಾಜೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಆಯುರ್ವೇದ ಮತ್ತು ಯುನಾನಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ
ಧನ್ವಂತರಿ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು–560009.
ದೂರವಾಣಿ: 080–22872848/22341261, Email: principalgamc9@gmail.com

ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಶ್ರೀಜಸಾಯುಆ/31/ಸರಬ/2022–23 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 09.02.2023

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ)

ಶ್ರೀ ಜಯಚಾಮರಾಜೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಆಯುರ್ವೇದ ಮತ್ತು ಯುನಾನಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಇಲ್ಲಿನ ಒಳರೋಗಿಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಹೊರರೋಗಿಗಳಿಗೆ ವಿತರಿಸಲು ಅವಶ್ಯಕವಾಗಿ ಬೇಕಾಗಿರುವ ಆರ್ಯುವೇದ ಔಷಧಿಗಳನ್ನು ಖರೀದಿಸುವ ಸಲುವಾಗಿ ದರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸುವ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿದೆ.

ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅನುಸೂಚಿಗಳು : (1) ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ : ರೂ. 15.00 ಲಕ್ಷ. (2) ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 09.02.2023. (3) ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ಪ್ರತಿ ದೊರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 10.02.2023. (4) ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 20.02.2023, ಸಂಜೆ 04.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ. (5) ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 21.02.2023, ಸಂಜೆ 4.10 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ. (6) ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆ ತೆರೆಯುವ ಸ್ಥಳ : ಪ್ರಾಚಾರ್ಯರ ಕೊಠಡಿ, ಶ್ರೀ ಜಯಚಾಮರಾಜೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಆಯುರ್ವೇದ ಮತ್ತು ಯುನಾನಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್–ನಿಯಮಗಳು/ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳನ್ನು ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in ರಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 10.02.2023 ರಿಂದ ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಸದಸ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಗಳು/ಸಹಾಯಕ ಆಡಳಿತಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು,
ಇ– ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಮಿತಿ,
ಶ್ರೀ ಜಯಚಾಮರಾಜೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಆಯುರ್ವೇದ ಮತ್ತು ಯುನಾನಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ

ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಸಂ.ಇ/ಬೆಂ.ನಗರ/4666/ಆಕಾರ್/2021–22

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INBRIEF

'Provide toilets, food courts on Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway'

JD(S) MLA Annadani on Monday urged the State government to take up the issue with the Centre to ensure that proper amenities like toilets and food courts were provided alongside the newly built Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway.

Intervening during the debate in the Assembly on motion of thanks to the Governor's address when ruling BJP member C.T. Ravi was praising the expressway, Mr. Annadani alleged that the highway that was access controlled did not have toilets or food courts. "How do you expect travellers to ease themselves without toilets," he wondered. He also alleged that the highway lacked quality standards at certain places and demanded that it should be rectified.

'Panel will be formed to study backwardness of taluks'

In the wake of creation of new taluks in the past few years, Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs J.C. Madhuswamy on Monday informed the Legislative Assembly that a new committee will be formed to study the backwardness of areas/taluks in the State.

During the Question Hour, Speaker Vishweshwara Hegde Kageri intervened and enquired about the government's decision on formation of the new committee for study of the backward areas or taluks as the D.M. Nanjundappa committee provided a report two decades ago on the backwardness of taluks. In his reply, Mr. Madhuswamy said several new taluks have been carved out from the existing taluks and some taluks have received industries and irrigation facilities.

However, to evaluate the existing facilities in some taluks, the government has decided to form a new committee to study the backwardness of areas/taluks, the Minister said.

'No plan to introduce sattvic diet in schools'

We have been giving eggs 46 days a year in all districts. If required, we will consider extending it beyond 46 days, says Minister B.C. Nagesh

IN THE LEGISLATURE

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

To enhance nutrition among children, the government sanctioned ₹126.75 crore for 45.92 lakh children in 2022-23. FILE PHOTO

There is no proposal before the government to introduce 'sattvic' diet in schools, School Education and Literacy Minister B.C. Nagesh informed the Legislative Council on Monday.

"Following evidence of significant improvement in the growth of children who are given eggs as part of midday meals, we have been giving eggs 46 days a year in all districts. If required, we will consider extending it beyond 46 days. No student will be forced to consume eggs. Vegetarians can choose between chikkis and bananas," the Minister said.

Responding to JD(S) member K.A. Thippeswamy who sought to know the government's stand on 'sattvic' food, Mr. Nagesh said it was only a view expressed by some during a roundtable on introducing moral education in schools. "We plan to introduce this from next academic year. Although some religious leaders also brought up the subject of the 'sattvic' diet during the meeting held on moral science education, it is their individual opinion and not the government's stand," he said, adding that the two are separate issues. "Since 2007, there has been discussion about giving eggs to children of classes 1 to 8. Regardless of opposition, our government has been giving eggs in districts where malnutrition is high," he said. To enhance nutrition among children, the government sanctioned ₹39.86 crore for 14.44 lakh children in 2021-2022 and ₹126.75 crore for 45.92 lakh children in 2022-23, he said.

Leader of the Opposition B.K. Hariprasad said caste, religion, and food have become political issues. "Some schools are not giving eggs. Not giving eggs to non-vegetarians is depriving them of their rights. Please ensure this does not happen," he said.

'JD(S) hoping for hung Assembly to grab power'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Opposition JD(S) is desperately hoping for a hung House after the forthcoming elections to the legislative Assembly in Karnataka to grab power, senior BJP MLA C.T. Ravi said on Monday. He said such a situation should not arise, as it would lead to 'politics of opportunity and business'.

Speaking on the motion of thanks to the Governor's address, Mr. Ravi said JD(S) took advantage of a fractured mandate in 2004 and 2018, and grabbed power without the mandate of the electorate. A clear majority to the BJP would ensure stability and growth, as the same party would be ruling at the Centre and the State, he claimed.

The 'A' team (Congress) and 'B' team (JD-S) levelled charges against each other in the 2018 polls but formed an 'unholy alliance' after the election results, Mr. Ravi said.

Meanwhile, Bandeppa Kashempur (JD-S) and other JD(S) members said the party would emerge victorious in the polls.

Hindu and Hindutva are inseparable, argues C.T. Ravi

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

C.T. Ravi speaking in the Legislative Assembly on Monday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

BJP national general secretary C.T. Ravi on Monday argued that "Hindu and Hindutva are inseparable" and expressed dissatisfaction over what he called " attempts to separate them."

Initiating motion of thanks in the Assembly to the address by Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot to the joint legislature session, Mr. Ravi maintained: "If Hindu is body, then Hindutva is his/her soul. How can they be separated?"

Launching a counter attack on the opponents of the BJP's ideology trying to draw a distinction between the religion and Hindutva as communal ideology, Mr. Ravi said there should be no place for such separation. Trying to separate the two is like opposing *sanaatana parampare*, he argued.

Maintained that the BJP was being wrongly projected as a party with communal ideology, he said: "None of the schemes of the BJP governments at the Centre or the State are caste-centric. But the Congress introduced schemes like Shaadi Bhagya which is targeted at only a particular community" he remarked. Mr. Ravi described the Governor's address, in which he has listed the government's achievements in various sectors, as the report card of the BJP government in terms of development.

BJP MLA P. Rajiv, who seconded the motion of thanks, took exception to the opponents describing the BJP as being "anti-Constitution." Recalling the imposition of Emergency by the Congress, he argued that actually it was the Congress that had anti-constitutional agenda.

Govt. priority is to provide uninterrupted power to farmers and students, says Energy Minister

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Providing seven-hour uninterrupted and quality power to farmers during summer and students during the exam season is the top priority of the State government, Energy Minister V. Sunil Kumar informed the Legislative Council on Monday.

Responding to members, the Minister said the government will ensure students are not put to hardship during exams. "In March last year, the electricity demand of the State was 14,818 mega watts (MW). As of February this year, the demand has touched 15,016 MWs It is expected to touch 16,500 MW by April. We have chalked out a plan to ensure there is no scarcity and measures will be initiated to supply power as per the demand. Focus is on increasing the use of renewable, solar and wind energy," he said.

Asserting that the government cannot afford to provide free power and further burden the various electricity companies (Escoms), Mr. Kumar said: "At the end of December, Escoms and power companies had a total debt of ₹72,000 crore. We cannot provide additional free power and liquidate the companies. Instead all measures will be initiated to provide uninterrupted quality power." He was responding to BJP member D.S. Arun Kumar, who raised the poll promise of 200 units free power by the Congress.

"At one point, it had become difficult to run Hescom and KPTCL due to lack of funds. They were revived with government grants. Currently, apart from 40 units of power that are being given free of cost under the Bhagya Jyoti and Kutira Jyoti schemes, 75 units are provided free of cost under Amrut Yojana. In this new scheme, beneficiaries should first pay the charges for the electricity used and the government pays the money into their account," he said.

Mr. Kumar said that there is no proposal before the State government to hike power tariff. Responding to Congress member Nagaraj Yadav during Zero Hour, Mr. Kumar said it is a regular process for Escoms to submit proposals on power tariff hike to the Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (KERC). "The KERC will hear objections to the hike and decide. But as of now, there is no proposal to hike charges," he said.

Shivalinge Gowda caught in 'Chakravyuha': Ravi

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

JD(S) member K.L. Shivalinge Gowda, who is likely to quit the party to join the Congress, came under attack from the BJP members and C.T. Ravi (BJP) who said Mr. Gowda is caught in the "Chakravyuha" on the eve of Assembly polls.

Mr. Gowda, elected from Arsikere constituency in Hassan district, has decided to quit the JD (S). "I am speaking about the benefits of 'double engine' but Mr. Gowda is in a dilemma," Mr. Ravi said, and asked the JD(S) member what role he would play in the polls. Mr. Gowda said: "I am playing the role of Arjun and not Abhimanyu and the people of the constituency will decide his fate in the polls.... As of now, I am in the JD(S) and have not resigned."

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

Dr. P.C.CHANDRASEKHARAN (95)
Former Dean P.G. Studies, Anna University, Chennai.
Passed away after a brief illness on 13th February 2023
Deeply Mourned by
His Sons: Mr. K.C.ARUN, and DR. K.C.ANAND & Families.
Ph: 9790879423/ 9840832861

DEATH

NAGAN RAMAN (V Nagarajan) 74yrs, of New Rochelle, NY, beloved of Ann Cosentino & family, Nina, Sheela & Sacha Newley, Deia, Ramnarayan, Sarada, Sivaramakrishnan, Vijayalakshmi, Sarojini and their Spouses, children & Grandchildren & Family. Passed away on 13/02/2023. Ct: 98400 20602.

SAD DEMISE

K ACHYUTHAN
A caring and loving husband-father-grandfather reached his heavenly abode on 9th February 2023
You taught us to make life beautiful for all. We love you and you are forever with us.
Hema, Mahati, Niyati, Vijay & KS Raghavan & Family
Contact: 9841009610

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

100TH YEAR BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

14.02.1923 | 01.04.2011
Dr.A.J.SELVAPANDIAN
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Prof & HOD Orthopedics
Christian Medical College
Vellore
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The Greatest of these is Love
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CHILDREN & FAMILIES

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

THIRD ANNIVERSARY

Mrs. JAGADAMMA VASAVAN
"Still in our Minds and Hearts"
Fondly Remembered by
E.V.Vasavan, Kalpana Nishanth, AK Nishanth
Workers & Staff of
Sicco Engineering Works, Mob: 95000 37252

TUNGABHADRA BOARD: TB DAM
e-Procurement Notice IFB Nos.184/2022-23 to 196/2022-23 Dt.13.02.2023 & 96/2022-23 Dt.30.11.2022 (2nd Call)

Tender for total 14 works under various categories are invited in respect of HW & HLC Division, TB Dam and LLC Division, Ballari through `e-Procurement'.

Bid Document downloading Start Date & Time:	14.02.2023 at 11.00 AM
Bid Document downloading End Date & Time :	28.02.2023 at 3.00 PM
Bid Submission End Date & Time :	28.02.2023 at 5.30 PM
Date of opening of Commercial Stage : (IFB No.184 to 196)	28.02.2023 at 6.00 PM
Date of opening of PQ Stage: (IFB No.96)	28.02.2023 at 6.00 PM
Date of opening of Commercial Stage: (IFB No.96)	02.03.2023 at 11.00 AM
Date of opening of TQ Stage: (IFB No.96)	02.03.2023 at 3.00 PM

Further details can be seen @ https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in
* Commencement of Reverse Tendering
Ph: 08394 – 259114
Fax 08394 - 259167
Sd/- Superintending Engineer
I.B, TB Board, TB Dam

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Project Central-2, Annexe-2 Building, BBMP, Bengaluru-560002
No.: EE/PC-2/TEND/18/2022-23 Date: 13.02.2023
INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Short Term Tender Notification)
(Through GOK e-procurement portal only)
The Executive Engineer, Project Central-2, BBMP invites tenders from the eligible tenderers for the construction of works detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	EMD (In Rupees)
1	Consultancy Services including proof checking for Construction Supervision, Project Management and Quality Control for the work of ``Junction Improvement and Beautification of Key Public Space and Historical Roads, Tender SURE Roads and White Topping Roads in Bengaluru City"	26,500/- (Through E-Procurement Portal)

Note: (1) Last date for receipt of queries **17.02.2023** upto **5:30 p.m.** in e-portal only. **(2)** Pre bid meeting will be held on **20.02.2023** at **4:00 p.m.** in the office of the Chief Engineer Project-Central. **(3)** Tenders must be submitted online through e-procurement portal on or before **5:30 p.m.** on **22.02.2023** and the opening of tenders will be as per the e-procurement portal guidelines. **(4)** Technical bids will be opened on the website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** in the office of the Executive Engineer - Project Central-2, BBMP on **24.02.2023** at **4:00 p.m.** Further details may be obtained from the above office, during office hours or website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**
Sd/- Executive Engineer, Project Central-2, BBMP

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY APPELLATE TRIBUNAL, SHASTRI BHAWAN, AT CHENNAI
AIR.253 OF 2022
M/s. Karnataka State Warehousing Corporation Having its Branch at Chintamani Represented by its Managing Director "UGRANA BHAVANA", # 43, Primrose Road, Bangalore- 560025
...Appellant/3rd Respondent
1. The Federal Bank Ltd Bengaluru Rural Hoskote Branch Rep. by its Manager Sri. Rajesh Nayak. K and 2 others.
...Respondent/Applicant
To,
1. Smt Parvathamma W/o.Venkatgiriyappa No.1 & 2, R/AT Hoskote Taluk Thagalli Hosahalli Jadigenahalli Bangalore Rural-562114
...Respondent/1st Respondent
2. Sri Venkatgiriyappa S/o. Maleyappa No.1 & 2, R/AT Hoskote Taluk Thagalli Hosahalli Jadigenahalli Bangalore Rural-562114
...Respondent/2nd Respondent
SUMMONS TO RESPONDENTS THROUGH SUBSTITUTED SERVICE
Whereas the above named Appellant had filed Appeal before the Hon'ble Recovery Appellate Tribunal, Chennai, to set aside the order dated 01.04.2022 made in OA.73 of 2020 passed by the Presiding officer, DRT-II at Bangalore dismissing the IA.No.1970 of 2020 a petition to set aside the order dated 05.10.2020.
Whereas the service of summons could not be effected in the ordinary manner and Whereas substituted service has been ordered by this appellate tribunal, and hence this notice through paper publication.
You are therefore directed to appear before this Hon'ble Tribunal in person or through a duly instructed advocate on **21.02.2023 at 11.00 a.m.**
Take notice that in case of default, the Appeal shall be heard and decided in your absence in accordance with law.
M/s. Aiyar & Dolia and K. Nikesh Khariwal, Advocates
29, Law chambers, High Court, Chennai-104.
DIPR/CP/RO4609/AAPL/2022-23

KSEB KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED - TENDER NOTICE
Name of work: Appointment of Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Service Provider for 37 lakh Prepaid Smart Meters in Kerala State Electricity Board Limited (KSEBL) on DBFOOT basis under TOTEX mode as part of RDSS. **PAC:** Rs. 2400 Crore (Approx.)
Last bid submission date : 22.03.2023 11.00 am.
www.etenders.kerala.gov.in, www.kseb.in
PR/MC1/E Tender (EM)/2023

TAMIL NADU CIVIL SUPPLIES CORPORATION
Head Office,12,THAMBUSAMYROAD, KILPAUK,CHENNAI-600010
Ph.No. (044) 26426773, Email id.: tncsc.tn@nic.in
CIN:U15137TN1972SGC006157
SHORT E-TENDER NOTICE
No.: BS6/006807/2023 **Dated: 13.02.2023**
Short E-Tender No: TNCSC/22-23/ET-101
Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation invites Online electronic tender for the **"Purchase of 20,000 Metric Tonnes of Tur dal (Split - Husked & Fatka) [Indigenous] as per Agmark specification".**
Complete short e-tender document can be viewed and downloaded through **https://www.mstcecommerce.com/eprochome/tncsc** and also available in **www.tenders.tn.gov.in**
The bidders have to participate online bidding only with Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) of Class-II or Class-III.
For Registration and further details contact MSTC LIMITED, Phone: 25222842/ 25251910/ 25261005 e-Mail: **mstcsro@mstcindia.co.in**
Last Date and Time for Online Submission: **Upto 11.00 A.M. on 08.03.2023**
DIPR/933/Tender/2023 **MANAGING DIRECTOR**
"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம், சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்".

PUBLIC NOTICE
The General Public is hereby notified that our client Indus Fila Limited is the sole and absolute owner of the schedule property.
The a) Original sale deeds both dated 28/03/2006 bearing document number 423/2006-07 and 424/2006-07 executed by KIADB in favour of M/s. Sai Lakshmi Industries Private Limited., b) original sale deed dated 06/05/2006 bearing document number NJG-1-01259/2006-07 executed by M/s. Sai Lakshmi Industries Private Limited., in favour of Indus Fila Limited, all registered in the office of the sub-registrar, Nanjanagudu, allrelated toschedule property, is lost/misplaced by **our** client. In this connection, a police complaint has been lodged by our client on 10/01/2023 online.
Any person finding the document Shall handover the same to the undersigned within 07 days from this day. If the said document is misused by anybody, it shall not be binding on our client and he/she/they shall be doing so at their own costs and risks.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All the piece and parcel of industrial land bearing Sy Nos. 243/1, 243/2, 243/3, 244/1, 244/2, 244/3, 245/1, 245/2, 255/1, 255/2A, 255/2B, 256, 257/1, 257/2, 257/3, 258/1, 258/2, 258/3, 259/2B, 259, 261, 262/1, 262/2, 262/3, 262/4, 263, 264, 357, 358/1, 358/3 and 219 situated at Kempisiddanahundi Gram panchayath khatha No. 164, situated in Himavu, Thoramavu and Thandavapura Village, Chikkaiahna Chatra Hobli, Nanjangud Taluk, Mysore District, having e-katha bearing 152200504600220291 assigned by kempisiddana Hundi Village Panchayath, measuring 246049.14 Square Meters plot area and 60120 .62 Square Meters built up area and bounded on:
East by : Road
West by : Road
North by : Road
South by : Private Property
H.K.GIRISH,
ADVOCATE / MANAGING PARTNER
M & G Associates
82, 1st Floor, 41st Cross, 03rd Main, 08th Block, Jayanagara, Bangalore – 70.
Ph - 080-26632343 / 88670-44666

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
WATER RESOURCE DEPARTMENT
KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
Executive Engineer, KNNL, KPC Division No-2, Bhalki
No. KNNL/EE/KPC2/TS-5/2022-23/1681 dated: 06.02.2023
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (ONLY THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT SYSTEM) IN SINGLE AND TWO COVER SYSTEM
Tenders in Electronic mode on "PERCENTAGE BASIS" are invited on behalf of the Managing Director, KNNL, Bangalore, by the Executive Engineer, KNNL, K P C Division No.2, Bhalki in Single &Two cover systems, from the contractors enrolled in KPWD of Karnataka State who fulfill the qualifying conditions, for the works details mentioned below.
The work Indent no's are 1) 35614, 2) 34876/Call-4 & 3) 35854, the amount put tender 1) 124.65 LAKHS, 2) 10.59 LAKHS & 3) 10.55 LAKHS. Respectively and EMD and Class of Contractor as per E-portal
Calendar of events: a) The Contractor can have access to the e-tender document 07-02-2023, b) The Last date of Submission of completed tender documents 20-02-2023 @ 16.30Hrs c) Date of Opening of Technical Bid is 21-02-2023 @ 17.00 Hrs & Financial bid is 22-02-2023 @ 17.01 Hrs respectively. All details & information can be had from the office of the under signed during office hours and visit website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in.
Sd/- Executive Engineer, KNNL, KPC, Division no-2, Bhalki.
DIPR/Bidar/466/MC&A/2022-23

U.K. for tie-up in high-end defence technologies

Dinakar Peri
BENGALURU

Terming the need for strong relations between India and the U.K. "mission critical", U.K. Minister for Defence Procurement Alex Chalk pitched for collaboration in high-end defence technologies, including jet engine technology, which, he said, were essential to preserve territorial integrity and to stand up for the international rules-based order of which India was an important part of.

He also pitched for cooperation in supply chain resilience, which had been brought to the fore in the war in Ukraine, and India's strengths in it.

The jet engine cooperation proposal put forward by Rolls Royce was the best "out there" and "most cost-effective" that "would set India apart," Mr. Chalk told a small group of journalists at Aero India show in Bengaluru.

"The context is the security context out you find yourselves in. You have the presence in a difficult backyard of China which we understand. So we recognise that a strong, independent, sovereign and capable India is essential to preserve its territorial integrity and to stand up for the international rules-based order. India is an important part of this international rules-based order. But to uphold that order you need strong defence capabilities that is the context for this very significant step we are taking here in India." On jet engine cooperation, for which India is evaluating co-development proposals from three global engine manufacturers, the visiting Minister said, "What the U.K. committed is our biggest ever capability transfer in our history. We would be providing more capability than to any other ally, – a G7 country, G20 country or 5-eyes country."

Sixth country

Elaborating, Mr. Chalk said, it means ensuring that the engine which is co-created, built to its specifications, if India were to export it to someone else or use it in a specific way, it is entirely up to India. "There are currently five nations on the planet that have this technology and India would be the sixth one and it will be sovereign Make in India. And this is the best technology out there," he stressed.

In addition to the conversation on jet engine, there are lot of other capability cooperation that is under discussion, he said, which includes missiles, infantry tactics, interoperability and maritime cooperation. "If the Rolls Royce deal goes ahead, sky is the limit in terms of future jet engine technology... We see this as a pivotal moment in India-U.K. relations, we have gone further and faster than ever before and see this as the beginning of a really special defence relationship."

'BMTC can't reduce payscale after downgrading cadre of staffer on suffering disability'

Karnataka HC passes order while allowing a plea filed by an employee who earlier worked as driver and later shifted to the post of office helper on suffering 40% disability after an bus accident

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) cannot reduce the payscale of an employee, even after downgrading the cadre or shifting to different posts to give lighter work on suffering disability of 40% or more while in service, said the High Court of Karnataka.

"It was but required for the road transport corporation to make Section 47 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, applicable and once an employee's cadre is downgraded and/or he is shifted to some other post, the pay scale and service benefits as mandated under first proviso to Section 47 be protected," the court said. Justice Suraj Govindaraj passed the order while allowing a petition filed by M.B. Jayadevaiah, who was earlier working as a driver and later shifted to the post of office helper on suffering more than 40% disability due to a bus accident in 1999.

The BMTC had accepted the petitioner's plea for giving lighter work by changing his cadre due to his disability. However, the BMTC, citing its internal norm, had also reduced his pay scale to that of the cadre to which he was posted to after disability.

However, the court said that BMTC's internal norms cannot be applied for reducing the pay scale as the 1995 Act protected the pay scale and other benefits of the disabled employee even after downgrading of the cadre.

Church Street drowns in red for Valentine's Day

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

People shop ahead of Valentine's Day at Malleswaram in Bengaluru on Monday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

With the tag of being one of the most popular youth hubs in Bengaluru, Church Street is all decked up in hues of red with heart models and balloons for Valentine's Day. Businesses, and restaurants and pubs, have introduced special offers with an aim to attract more patrons.

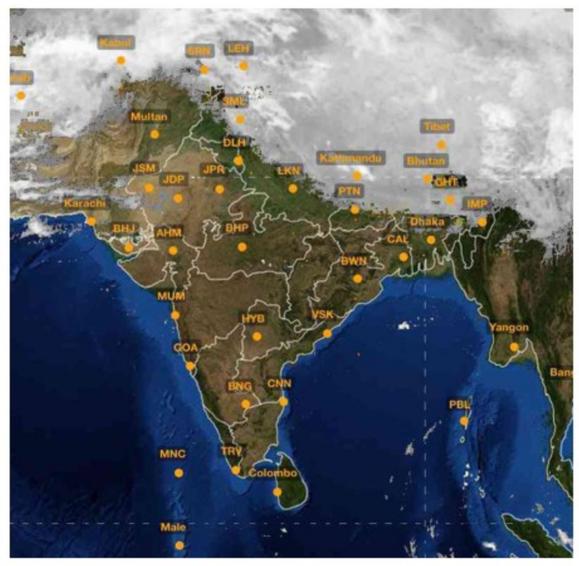
"We release special drinks and food items, themed to reflect the relationship status of our customers, and even intend to bring on a DJ, especially during Valentines' week," said the manager of a popular resto-bar on Church Street. A streetwear brand owner said, "Brands like us try to lure them in by giving discounts, hoping for higher sales. We make small mementos, such as clay heart key chains, which is reasonable on our pockets, which we give along with every sold item for free."

However, some youngsters opined that the appeal of the day is slowly wearing off. Nevertheless, businesses are hopeful of seeing the usual crowds on February 14.

"Be it a weekend or such special celebratory days, our patrons, especially those from college, will definitely come here. Ahead of Valentine's Day, there are already a lot of flowers around the street, and businesses have put up their decorations," said Deepak Batavia, president, Church Street Occupants' Association.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Tuesday: No weather warning

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	28.4	15.0	Kozhikode	—	34.6	23.6
Ahmedabad	—	31.8	15.4	Kurnool	—	36.9	20.0
Aizawl	—	27.6	13.6	Lucknow	—	23.2	9.5
Allahabad	—	23.7	9.4	Madurai	—	34.8	18.6
Bengaluru	—	32.5	16.2	Mangaluru	—	35.1	22.0
Bhopal	—	—	9.6	Mumbai	—	37.3	24.2
Bhubaneswar	—	33.7	16.8	Mysuru	—	33.0	12.4
Chandigarh	—	21.2	6.0	New Delhi	—	23.2	8.7
Chennai	—	33.1	19.0	Patna	—	24.4	10.2
Coimbatore	—	34.2	17.4	Port Blair	—	31.4	22.2
Dehradun	—	23.5	5.4	Puducherry	—	32.8	18.6
Gangtok	0.6	14.0	6.7	Pune	—	32.5	15.4
Goa	—	37.9	21.8	Raipur	—	30.7	14.9
Guwahati	—	27.5	12.4	Ranchi	—	27.7	12.0
Hubballi	—	35.0	18.0	Shillong	—	16.2	7.1
Hyderabad	—	32.8	17.0	Shimla	—	16.3	1.4
Imphal	—	25.2	10.1	Srinagar	0.3	10.2	-4.0
Jaipur	—	25.2	9.9	Thiruvananthapuram	—	31.3	21.4
Kochi	—	31.0	23.2	Tiruchi	—	32.9	19.0
Kohima	—	19.8	7.8	Vijayawada	—	34.2	19.6
Kolkata	—	28.0	16.4	Visakhapatnam	—	33.0	22.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.40	119	56	67	107	
Bengaluru	8	107	57	77	121	
Chennai	.23	52	52	230	155	
Delhi	.12	72	36	246	188	
Hyderabad	.37	20	30	111	142	
Kolkata	.19	13	54	118	107	
Lucknow	.20	18	98	83	129	
Mumbai	.43	248	4	311	155	
Pune	—	22	54	152	113	
Visakhapatnam	.10	39	48	130	155	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Byrnihat, Assam recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 333 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Damoh, Madhya Pradesh recorded a healthy AQI score of 26

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

PUBLIC NOTICE

The general public are hereby notified that our client Mrs. Lakshmi Raghunandan has lost the original Agreement of Sale executed by M/s Adarsh Developers through its Partner B.M. Karunesh in favour of her and her husband Mr. R.V. Raghunandan (since deceased) pertaining to residential apartment No. 1004, 'D' Block, 10th Floor of "ADARSH-GULMOHAR", measuring 3577 Sq.ft and commensurate undivided right of 790 Sq.ft. A Police Complaint dated 08.02.2023 has been lodged with Karnataka State Police in Lost Report No.0467179/2023. If any person finds the said document kindly inform the advocate stated herein **within 10 days from today.** If any persons misuse the said document, the same is not binding on our client and they shall do as at their own risk.

Priyanka B. V. Advocate
27, Serpentine Road, Kumara Park West,
Bangalore 560 020. Contact No. 080-23348096

Bangalore
13-02-2023

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ.
ಉಪ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರ ಕಛೇರಿ, 1ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಕಛೇರಿಗಳ
ಸಮುಚ್ಚಯ ಹೆಚ್.ಕೆ.ವೀರಣ್ಣಗೌಡರಸ್ತೆ, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ
ಕಛೇರಿ ಹತ್ತಿರ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ –571401 ದೂ:08232–220772
ಇ.ಮೇಲ್.dswomandya@gmail.com
ಸಂ:ಉನಿ/ಸಕಇ/ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ/ಸಿಆರ್– /2022–23
ದಿನಾಂಕ:09–02–2023

ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

2022–23ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಂಡ್ಯ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಸತಿ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳ ಸಂಘದವತಿಯಿಂದ ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಮತ್ತು ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗಗಳ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ಮೊರಾರ್ಜಿ ದೇಸಾಯಿ /ಕಿತ್ತೂರು ರಾಣಿ ಚೆನ್ನಮ್ಮ ಮತ್ತು ಡಾ:ಬಿ.ಆರ್.ಅಂಬೇಡ್ಕರ್ ವಸತಿ ಶಾಲೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಸಾಮಾಗ್ರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸರಬರಾಜು ಮಾಡಲು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ವೇದಿಕೆ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತೆ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ದಾರರು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 10.02.2023 ರಿಂದ 20.02.2023 ರವರೆಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳ ನಿಗದಿತ ದಸ್ತಾವೇಜುಗಳನ್ನು **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಿಂದ ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿ ಅವಶ್ಯಕ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯೊಂದಿಗೆ ಹಾಗೂ ನಿಗದಿತ ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ದಾರರು ಈ ಕಚೇರಿಯ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ : **1926**. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವಿವರ : **ಹಾಸಿಗೆಗಳು, ದಿಂಬುಗಳು, ಬೆಡ್‌ಶೀಟ್, ಬೆಡ್‌ಸ್ಪ್ರೆಡ್‌ಗಳ ಪೂರೈಕೆಗಾಗಿ**. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗೆ ಇಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ) : **69,72,336–00**. ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ : **1927**. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವಿವರ : **ಪ್ರಯೋಗಾಲಯ ಸಾಮಗ್ರಿ, ಪಾಠೋಪಕರಣಗಳು, ನರ್ಸಿಂಗ್ ಕಿಟ್ (ಸೆಟ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ), ಪ್ರೋಜೆಕ್ಟರ್ ಮತ್ತು ಸ್ಕ್ರೀನ್ ಪೂರೈಕೆಗಾಗಿ**. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗೆ ಇಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ) : **5,36,368–00**. ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ : **1928**. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವಿವರ : **ಸೋಲಾರ್ ವಾಟರ್ ಹೀಟರ್ (500 ಲೀ ಕ್ಯಾಪಸಿಟಿ) ಪೂರೈಕೆಗಾಗಿ**. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗೆ ಇಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ) : **19,02,176–00**. ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ : **1929**. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವಿವರ : **ವಾಟರ್ ಪ್ಯೂರಿ ಫೈಯರ್ ಪೂರೈಕೆಗಾಗಿ**. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗೆ ಇಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ) : **24,78,000–00**. ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ : **1930**. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವಿವರ : **ಪಾತ್ರೆ ಪರಿಕರಗಳು (ಸೆಟ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ), ತಟ್ಟೆ–ಲೋಟಗಳು, ಗ್ರೈಂಡರ್‌ಗಳ ಪೂರೈಕೆಗಾಗಿ**. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗೆ ಇಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ) : **4,26,240–00**. ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ : **1931**. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವಿವರ : **ಡೆಸ್ಕ್ ಕಂ ಬೆಂಚ್, ಟು ಟೈಯರ್ ಕಾಟ್, ಡೈನಿಂಗ್ ಟೇಬಲ್, ಆಫೀಸ್ ಟೇಬಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಎಸ್–ಟೈಪ್ ಛೇರ್‌ಗಳ ಪೂರೈಕೆಗಾಗಿ**. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗೆ ಇಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ) : **1,94,67,614–00**.

Schedule of events:- (1) E Tender Notification : **09.02.2023.** (2) Last date and time for uploading E Tender in e-procurement platform : **20.02.2023**. (3) Opening of Technical bid : **22.02.2023.** (4) Opening of Financial bid : **24.02.2023.**

ಸಹಿ/–ಉಪನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು,
ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ.
ಪಾಸಾಸಂಖ್ಯ/ಸನಿ–ಮಂ/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/668/2022–23

SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM LIMITED
CIN U75302KL2017SGC05027

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited for the following projects of Smart City Thiruvananthapuram Limited Project Area 1) Request for proposal RFP for Selection of Contractor for Development of Smart Roads and Underground Ducting Including Utility Shifting of Water Supply and Power lines in ABD area Under Smart (Corporation Roads) in Thiruvananthapuram.

SL. NO.	Name of Project	E-Tender ID	PAC Amount (Exclusive Of GST)	Bid Submission Last Date
Selection of Contractor for Development of Smart Roads and Underground Ducting Including Utility Shifting of Water Supply and Power lines in ABD area Under Smart (Corporation Roads) in Thiruvananthapuram.				
1	Road ID 41 (Kothuval to Sabhapathi Kovil Street Road)	2023_SCTLT_550644_1	Rs.4,57,70,352/-	16/02/2023
2	Road ID 43 (Marakkada Road)	2023_SCTLT_550815_1	Rs.2,29,11,634/-	16/02/2023
3	Road ID 31A (Keezhe Thampanoor Road)	2023_SCTLT_551304_1	Rs.3,20,36,478/-	16/02/2023
4	Road ID 177 (Tamil School Lane)	2023_SCTLT_551536_2	Rs.1,38,49,968/-	16/02/2023
5	Road ID 178 (Vivekananda Nagar Lane)	2023_SCTLT_551354_1	Rs.1,47,13,233/-	16/02/2023
6	Road ID 65,66,67,68 (Padma Nagar)	2023_SCTLT_551860_1	Rs.2,90,89,323/-	16/02/2023
7	Road ID 180 & 181 (Kamukuvilakom Road and Ankalamman Nagar Road)	2023_SCTLT_551497_1	Rs.3,15,84,659/-	16/02/2023
8	Road ID 90A (Dharmalayam Road)	2023_SCTLT_551327_1	Rs.2,51,54,527/-	16/02/2023
9	Road ID 72 & 73 (Thyvila Road and Shanthi Nagar Road)	2023_SCTLT_551312_1	Rs.3,51,84,212/-	16/02/2023

Date and Time of Opening Price Bid: To Be Intimated Separately to Technically Qualified Bidders by e-mail. All the RFP documents and details are available on the e-Procurement Website. Bids are only accepted online on the Website **https://etenders.kerala.gov.in**

(sd/-) **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**
SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM Ltd.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EX-SERVICEMEN CONTRIBUTORY HEALTH SCHEME STATION CELL
STATION HQ ECHS CELL BANGALORE , TELE NO 080-25322873
e-mail:echscellbangalore@gmail.com

E –TENDER NOTICE FOR EMPANELMENT OF AUTHORISED LOCAL CHEMIST FOR SUPPLY OF MEDICINES TO ECHS POLYCLINIC MADIKERI, SHIMOGA, MEG CENTRE BANGALORE, VIRAJPET AND MANGALORE IN KARANATAKA STATE FOR A PERIOD OF 01 APR 2023 TO 31 MAR 2025

OPEN TENDER NOTICE: NO 04980/ALC STN CELL BANGALORE/2023-25/ ECHS DT 10 FEB 2023

1. For and on behalf of the President of India , Station Commander , Station HQ Bangalore invites online bids from reputed Local Chemists for empanelment to supply " **Not Available Emergent Life Saving & Essential Drugs**" on as required basis to ECHS Polyclinics Madikeri, Shimoga, MEG Centre Bangalore , Virajpet and Mangalore located in Karnataka state. The names of ECHS Polyclinics and their location and EMD are mentioned in the e-tender documents also. Bidders are advised to refer to the e-tender published online of DPP Portal.
2.Online bids will be received through the 2-bid system (technical and financial bids) via Defence Procurement Portal (DPP) only. The eligibility criteria and other details including terms and conditions of the e-tender DOCUMENT can be downloaded free of cost from the CPP Portal https://defprocu.gov.in using following respective Tender Ids of Polyclinics. corresponding to the tender of ECHS Polyclinics where interested from **10 Feb 23 to till 02 Mar 2023 at 1155 hours**. The e-tender for each of the ECHS Polyclinics will be separate tenders:-

Ser No	Name of ECHS Polyclinic	Tender ID No.
(a)	ECHS Polyclinic Madikeri	2023_ARMY_580178_1
(b)	ECHS Polyclinic Shimoga	2023_ARMY_580207_1
(c)	ECHS Polyclinic MEG Centre Bangalore	2023_ARMY_580222_1
(d)	ECHS Polyclinic Virajpet	2023_ARMY_580237_1
(e)	ECHS Polyclinic Mangalore	2023_ARMY_580235_1

3. The tender document is also available on the ECHS website www.echs.gov.in under relevant tender head. The last date for bid submission at ECHS Cell Stn Cell, Cubbon Road, Bangalore is **02 Mar 2023 at 1055h**

School for Advanced Research in Petrochemicals (SARP) - APDDRL
Plot No. 7P, Hi-Tech Defence& Aerospace Park,
Jalahobli, Bengaluru North-562149
E-mail: apddrl@cipet.gov.in Web: www.cipet.gov.in

e-Tender Notice

CIPET:SARP-APDDRL, Bengaluru, invites e-tenders for **Event Management, Vehicles and Catering** from Resourceful and Reliable Service Provider/Supplier preferably from Karnataka who have executed similar Events / Experience for **International Conference on "Advancements in Polymeric Materials - APM 2023"** to be held at Bangalore during March 17-19, 2023. Eligible Bidders are requested to submit their proposal online in the **Prescribed Format** along with all supporting documents on or before **22.02.2023 by 15:00 hrs** at **https://www.tenderwizard.com/CIPET.** The tender details are available at **www.cipet.gov.in.**
CIPET reserve the rights to reject any or all of the bids or cancel without assigning any reason.

Sr. Scientist & Head

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Rajarajeshwarinagar Division,
BBMP Office, Near Chowdeshwari Bus Stop, Mathikere, Bangalore-54

No.EE/RRND/Tend/13/2022-23 Date:10.02.2023

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only) (Single Cover Tender) (Call-2)

The Executive Engineer, Rajarajeshwarinagar Division, invites tenders from eligible contractors for various construction and other works detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Ward No. & Name	Est. Cost (Rs. in lakhs)	EMD (in Rs.)	No. of Works
Reserved for General Category				
1	41-Peenya	10.00 Each	25,000 Each	2
2	42-Lakshmidevinagar	10.00 to 30.00	25,000 to 60,000	3
3	43- Ranadheera Kanteerava	30.00 &40.00	60,000 & 80,000	2
4	45- Vijayanagara Krishnadevaraya	50.00 each	1,00,000 each	2
5	46- Sir M. Vishweswaraiah	50.00	1,00,000	1
6	47- Nalwadi krishnaraja Wadior	10.00	25,000	1
7	49- Rajarajeshwari Nagara	30.00	60,000	1
Reserved for SC Category				
8	43- Ranadheera Kanteerava	50.00	50,000	1
9	44- Veera Sindhura Lakshmana	10.00 & 40.00	12,500 & 40,000	2
10	47- Nalwadi krishnaraja Wadior	30.00 & 50.00	30,000 & 50,000	2
Reserved for ST Category				
11	39 - Kanneshwara Rama	50.00	50,000	1
12	45- Vijayanagara Krishnadevaraya	10.00	12,500	1
13	46- Sir M. Vishweswaraiah	10.00 & 50.00	12,500 & 50,000	2
14	48- Jnana Bharathi	10.00 to 50.00	12,500 to 50,000	3
			Total Works	24

Note : For details of Eligibility & Class of Contractors, Please refer website. **1)** Tender documents may be downloaded from GOK e-Procurement portal **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in from 15.02.2023 onwards. 2)** Last date & time for receipt of tenders: **02.03.2023 upto 4.00 p.m. 3)** Date of opening of tenders: **03.03.2023 at 4.30 p.m.** Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours & also from website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Rajarajeshwarinagar Division

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer (Project Central-2),
Annexe-2 Building, BBMP, Bengaluru - 560002.

No: EE/PC-2/TEND/16/2022-23 Date: 13-02-2023

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) - (SHORT TERM)
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)

The Executive Engineer, Project Central-2, BBMP, Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible tenderers for the Construction of the Works detailed below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	EMD (in Rupees)
1	"Consultancy Services including Proof Checking for Construction Supervision, Project Management and Quality Control for the Work of "Construction of New Urban Primary Health Centers (New Hospitals) Buildings in Bommanahalli Zone and South Zone in BBMP Limits".	Rs. 21500/- (Through E-Procurement Portal)

Calendar of Events: 1) The Tender Documents can be downloaded from the GOK e-Procurement Website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in. 2)** Last Date for Receipt of Queries is **17-02-2023 upto 17.30 Hrs. in e-Portal Only. 3)** Pre Bid Meeting will be held on **20-02-2023 at 16.00 Hrs. in the Office of the Chief Engineer - Project Central. 4)** Tenders must be submitted online through e-Procurement Portal **on or before 17.30 Hrs. on 22-02-2023. 5)** Technical Bids will be Opened on **24-02-2023 at 16.00 Hrs. in the Office of the Executive Engineer - Project Central-2, BBMP.** Further details can be had from the above office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Project Central-2, BBMP.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that my Client **HARISH R.ACHARYA**, Son of Mr.N.R.Achar, Residing at: No.22, Juhu Ajanta Society, Gulmohar Road, J.V.P.D Scheme, Mumbai – 400 049. Today camp at Bangalore, is the full and absolute owner by title and in actual possession enjoyment of the property described in the Schedule hereunder. My client represents that his vendor Smt. Lakshmi Suhas who had acquired the Schedule Property from her vendors namely Sri.M.V.Chandrashekar and his only son Sri.M.C.Indu Mouli in terms of a Sale Deed dated 26/02/1994 and registered on 30/03/1994 vide Document No.2467/1993-94 in Book-I, Volume-1755 at pages 253 to 264 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.
My Client states that the original of the Sale Deed dated 26/02/1994 as referred to above is either lost in transit or mislaid. Any person/s finding the Original Sale Deed dated 26/02/1994 and registered on 30/03/1994 vide Document No.2467/1993-94 in Book-I, Volume-1755 at pages 253 to 264 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal, may deliver the same to the undersigned forthwith. My client has lodged a complaint before the jurisdictional police regarding loss of title deed. Other than my Client if any person/s were to deal with the said original Sale Deed dated 26/02/1994 the same will not be binding on my Client and such person/s will not derive any right, title to or interest and such transaction will be void-ab-initio.

: **SCHEDULE** :

Item No.I : All that Plantation land bearing No.A-26 forming portion of '**SMILEE GREENS**', measuring 00 Acre 2.04 Guntas in Sy.No.128 and after resurvey presently bearing Sy.No.128/1, situated in Goolimangala Village, Sarjapur Hobli, Anekal Taluk and bounded by :
East by : Plantation land in Sy.No.128;
West by : Remaining portion in plantation land bearing No.A-26 in Sy.No.129;
North by : Plantation Land bearing No.A-27 formed in Sy.Nos.128 and 129;
South by : Plantation Land bearing No.A-25 formed in Sy.Nos.128 and 129.
Item No.II : All that Plantation land bearing No.A-26 forming portion of '**SMILEE GREENS**', measuring 00 Acre 8.04 Guntas in Sy.No.129 and after resurvey presently bearing Sy.No.129/1, situated in Goolimangala Village, Sarjapur Hobli, Anekal Taluk and bounded by :
East by : Remaining portion in Plantation land bearing No.A-26 in Sy.No.128;
West by : Plantation land bearing No.A-21 formed in Sy.No.129;
North by : Plantation Land bearing No.A-27 formed in Sy.Nos.128 and 129;
South by : Plantation Land bearing No.A-25 formed in Sy.Nos.128 and 129;

Sri. K. P. RUPESH KUMAR, Advocate,
"LAW CORP", No.98/2-27, Mohan Towers, Residency Road,
Bangalore 560 001. Mobile: 9886761765.
Bangalore, Dated : 13/02/2023.

Honour of office

Those required to shun partisan politics must not be made Governors

A former judge of the Supreme Court of India and a former Indian Army commander are among the new Governors of States appointed by the Centre on Sunday. The Governors of several States and the Lieutenant-Governor of a Union Territory were also shuffled. In recent years, Governors have sought to play a political role in States such as Jharkhand, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal, creating a train of controversies. For good reasons, the roles of the military and the judiciary too are topics of interest, particularly with regard to their relationship with the political executive. The executive government's eagerness to control judicial appointments, besides the debate on the collegium system of judges appointing judges, is evident. It has selectively delayed and accelerated appointments recommended by the collegium, effectively exercising powers that it does not have in appointing judges. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has also faced charges of using the armed forces to further its political narratives. Earlier too, retired police and intelligence officers went on to occupy Raj Bhavans, but it was the appointment of a retired Chief Justice of India (CJI) as a Governor in 2014 that created a new precedent. Another retired CJI was nominated to the Rajya Sabha, in 2020, raising eyebrows.

The institution of the Governor is a legacy of the British imperial governance structure. The legitimacy of a nominated Governor in a democracy was the topic of a heated debate in the Constituent Assembly, but it was carried on into the new republic nevertheless. The Governor was to act as a dynamic link between the Centre and the State, but the makers of the Constitution were clear that the posts must remain ornamental, except in very narrowly defined situations in which they were allowed discretion in decision-making. Over the decades, the overreach of Governors has become a serious question in Centre-State relations and democracy in general. The dominance of the BJP at the Centre since 2014 has added fresh tensions with the States. The BJP has a vision of national unity that causes anxiety among regional interest groups. The office of the Governor was to be embellished by the personalities of those who would occupy it. Opening it as a post-retirement possibility for those who are required to stay aloof from partisan politics in their current roles, lowers the dignity of the offices that they leave behind and what they go on to occupy.

Not a pipe dream

Functional tap water is a basic necessity that must be provided to all households

Among the marquee schemes that the government hopes to showcase ahead of the general election next year is the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM). The aim here is to provide piped water to every rural household by 2024. In the Budget address, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman apportioned ₹69,684 crore, a 27% increase, from the ₹54,808 crore from the revised estimates of financial year 2022. However, the outlay reflects the extent of the work that remains. Of the targeted 19.3 crore rural households, only 3.2 crore had piped water in August 2019. The JJM dashboard on the Jal Shakti Ministry website says that as of February 2023, over 11 crore households, or about 57% of the targeted, now have tap water. While that is an impressive jump in percentage points for three years, it will be difficult with only 12 months to go to ensure that the remaining 47% are connected. So far, only the States of Goa, Gujarat, Haryana and Telangana have reported 100% coverage of eligible households with piped water, with Punjab and Himachal Pradesh nearly there at over 97%. Excluding these, only 10 other States or Union Territories have reported over 60% coverage. Large, populous States such as Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan have reported only 30% coverage, and Madhya Pradesh, around 47%.

A fully functional tap water connection is defined as a household getting at least 55 litres of potable water per capita per day all through the year; however, local reports suggest that despite having a tap connection, several village households revert to their local groundwater resources as the quality of supplied tap water is inadequate. Few independent assessments of the scheme exist. A sample survey of around 3,00,000 eligible households that was commissioned by the Ministry of Water Resources to assess the functioning of the scheme found only three-fourths of them reported water seven days a week, and, on average, households were getting water for only three hours a day. While over 90% of institutions such as anganwadis and schools reported access to tap water, several of them reported high levels of chlorine as well as problems with bacterial contamination. Moreover, the current numbers on the adoption in households are based on self-reporting by villages and are not certified by a third party. Some States such as Bihar have stated that most of their connections were provided for under State funds and not under the JJM. Functional, permanent tap water is a basic necessity and rather than aim to reach just a numerical target, the government should try to evaluate the extent of quality, consistent adoption of tap water in rural India. While planned as a bottom-up scheme, the Centre must ensure that States with the lowest adoption and largest population be assisted with improving numbers, rather than only facilitating States that are close to the finishing line.

House rules and the weapon of expunction

P.D.T. Achary

is former Secretary General, Lok Sabha

The expunction of portions of the speeches made by some Opposition politicians in Parliament recently is an issue that has sparked off a debate on an action taken by the Speaker (in the speech by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi), and the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha (in the case of the speech made by Congress President and Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge). Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Kharge were both speaking on the Motion of Thanks to the President of India for her address to the Members of Parliament of both Houses. This is customary practice although the Constitution does not provide for any such motion, except direct that each House shall discuss the matters contained in the address. This is a practice adopted from the British Parliament.

When such a motion is discussed, MPs are generally permitted to speak on anything under the sun. It is an occasion to point out lapses on the government's part and discuss the gamut of issues that concern the governance of the country. Speeches are generally political and the Chair never insists on relevance. Since the Council of Ministers is collectively responsible to Parliament, MPs have the right to critically scrutinise the performance of the government. Accountability to Parliament requires the government to respond adequately to the questions raised by MPs in the debate. Under the Rules of the House, it is the Prime Minister who replies to the debate in both Houses.

The rules that are in place

Article 105 of the Constitution confers on members, freedom of speech in the House and immunity from interference by the court for anything said in the House. Thus, freedom of speech in the House is the most important privilege of a Member of Parliament which is subject only to the other provisions of the Constitution relating to the running of the House and the House Rules. Rule 380 of the Rules of procedure of the Lok Sabha and Rule 261 of the Rules of the Rajya Sabha give the power to the presiding officers of these Houses to expunge any words used in the debate which are defamatory, unparliamentary, undignified or indecent. Once expunged they do not remain on record and if anyone publishes them thereafter, they will be liable for breach of privilege of the House.

There are also occasions when an MP may, during his speech, make an allegation against a fellow MP or an outsider. Rule 353 of the Lok Sabha regulates the procedure in that regard. Under this Rule, the MP is required to give "adequate advance notice" to the Speaker as well as the Minister concerned.

> In a House where freedom of speech is the most important privilege of a Member of Parliament, establishing defamatory or incriminatory statements as opposed to critical comments, which an MP has the right to make, is important

It may be noted here that the Rule does not prohibit the making of any allegation. The only requirement is advance notice, on receipt of which the Minister concerned will conduct an inquiry into the allegation and come up with the facts when the MP makes the allegation in the House. In this case, it may be noted that the allegation which necessitates advance notice, etc. is of a defamatory or incriminatory nature. It means that if the allegation is neither defamatory nor incriminatory, the above rule would have no application.

The rule does not obviously apply to an allegation against a Minister in the government. Since the Council of Ministers is accountable to Parliament, the Members of the House have the right to question Ministers and make imputations against their conduct as Ministers. All that is a part of their duty to ensure the government's accountability to Parliament. Article 105 gives them the freedom to discharge their duty fearlessly.

Allegations and Speaker rulings

However, a Member of Parliament needs to follow a certain procedure while making an allegation against a Minister. Such a procedure has been laid down by Speakers in the past. Making an allegation against a Minister or the Prime Minister is considered to be a serious matter; therefore, the presiding officers have carefully laid down a stipulation that the MP who makes an imputation against a Minister of the government should be sure about the factual basis of the allegation, and that he must take responsibility for it. If the MP complies with this stipulation, then the allegation will be allowed to remain on record. There have been many instances in the Lok Sabha when MPs have made allegations against Ministers. Here are two rulings made by the Speakers on such occasions.

On September 2, 1965 when Prakash Vir Shastri, MP, made personal allegations against Humayun Kabir, the then Minister for Education, the Minister refuted the allegation but the MP reiterated his allegation and referred to press reports. In his ruling, the Speaker, Sardar Hukam Singh, said, "I wish to inform all the Honourable members with great respect that a mere report in a newspaper about anything does not give you the privilege to raise it in the House. I know that normally the source of information available to members is newspapers. But that is not a sufficient basis for a member to make an allegation against a Minister, member or other dignitaries. It is necessary to probe it further and satisfy oneself about it... Even if the allegation is proved wrong, it will[,] after all, affect the reputation of the person."

On December 21 1981 in the Lok Sabha, Bapusaheb Parulekar, MP, made a reference to an allegation published in the *Sunday* (a weekly) against the then Railway Minister, Kedar Pande, and his family members in connection with permanent railway card passes. The Deputy Speaker, G. Lakshmanan, who was in the chair gave the following ruling: "The member should, before making an allegation in the House, satisfy himself after making enquiries that there is a basis for the allegation. The member should be prepared to accept the responsibility for the allegation and the member should be prepared to substantiate the allegation."

Issue of defamation

However, a careful reading of the Rules of the House would reveal that the axe of expunction can be wielded only when the allegations mentioned therein are of defamatory or incriminatory character. Under Section 499 of the Indian Penal Code (Second exception), any statement respecting the conduct of a public servant in the discharge of his public function or his character (so far as his character appears in that conduct) is not defamation. If such a statement is made in the House against a Minister who is a public servant, it does not come within the 'mischief' of Rule 353 or Rule 380.

Therefore, it does not afford an occasion for the presiding officers to expunge words in or portions of a speech on the ground that they are defamatory. It is thus clear that before the weapon of expunction is wielded, it needs to be ascertained whether the speech contains defamatory or incriminatory statements or only critical comments (which a Member of Parliament has the right to make). It also needs to be ensured that the freedom of speech enjoyed by the Members in the House is not needlessly curtailed.

Hill or city, urban planning cannot be an afterthought

Feroze Varun Gandhi

is a three-time Member of Parliament from the Pilibhit Lok Sabha constituency in Uttar Pradesh, and the author of the new book, 'The Indian Metropolis: Deconstructing India's Urban Spaces'

On December 24, 2009, a tunnel boring machine in Joshimath, Uttarakhand, hit an aquifer about three kilometres from Selang village. This resulted in the loss of nearly 800 litres of water per second (enough to sustain the needs of nearly 30 lakh people per day). Soon after, groundwater sources began drying up even as the water flow reduced but never stopped. Meanwhile, Joshimath has no system to manage wastewater. Instead, the large-scale use of the soak-pit mechanism could exacerbate land sinking. Ongoing infrastructure projects (the Tapovan Vishnugad dam and the Helang-Marwari bypass road) may also worsen the situation.

The problem in hilly urban India

Land subsidence incidents in hilly urban India are becoming increasingly common –an estimated 12.6% of India's land area is prone to landslides, especially in Sikkim, West Bengal and Uttarakhand. Urban policy is making this worse, according to the National Institute of Disaster Management (and highlighted in the National Landslide Risk Management Strategy, September 2019). Construction in such a landscape is often driven by building bye-laws that ignore local geological and environmental factors. Consequently, land use planning in India's Himalayan towns and the Western Ghats is often ill-conceived, adding to slope instability. As a result, landslide vulnerability has risen, made worse by tunnelling construction that is weakening rock formations.

Acquiring credible data is the first step toward enhancing urban resilience with regard to land subsidence. The overall landslide risk needs to be mapped at the granular level. The Geological Survey of India has conducted a national mapping exercise (1:50,000 scale, with each centimetre denoting approximately 0.5 km). Urban policymakers need to take this further, with additional detail and localisation (1:1,000 scale). Areas with high landslide risk should not be allowed to expand large infrastructure; there must be a push to reduce human interventions and adhere to carrying capacity. Aizawl, Mizoram, is in 'Seismic Zone V', and built on very steep slopes. An earthquake with a magnitude greater than 7 on the Richter scale would easily trigger over 1,000 landslides and cause large-scale damage to buildings. But the city has developed a landslide action plan (with a push to reach 1:500 scale), with updated regulations to guide construction activities in hazardous zones. The city's landslide policy committee is cross-disciplinary in nature, seeking inputs from civic society and university students, with a push to continually update risk zones.

> From Joshimath to Panjim, India's flawed urban journey is a case of not having a multi-generational process in place

Further, any site development in hazardous zones needs assessment by a geologist (with respect to soil suitability and slope stability) and an evaluation of its potential impact on buildings that are nearby. It may need corrective measures (retention walls), with steps to prohibit construction in hazardous areas. In Gangtok, Sikkim, the Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham has helped set up a real-time landslide monitoring and early warning system, with sensors assessing the impact of rainfall infiltration, water movement and slope instability.

Rising flood risk

Flood risk is the second issue. In August 2019, Palava City (Phase I and II) in Dombivli, Maharashtra experienced heavy flooding, leaving residents stranded. Seasonal rain is now increasing in intensity, and the reason for the flooding soon became evident – the township, spread over 4,500 acres, was built on the flood plains of the Mothali river. When planned townships are approved, with a distinct lack of concern for natural hazards, such incidents are bound to occur. There are more examples. Floods in Panjim, Goa, in July 2021, led to local rivers swelling and homes being flooded, leaving urban settlements along the Mandovi affected. Again, urban planning was the issue; the city, built on marshlands, was once home to mangroves and fertile fields, which helped bolster its flood resilience. In Delhi, an estimated 9,350 households live in the Yamuna floodplains, while the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report of March 2022 has highlighted the risk Kolkata faces due to a rise in sea levels. The combination of poor urban planning and climate change will mean that many of India's cities could face devastating flooding.

Flood-proofing India's cities will require multiple measures: urban planners will have to step back from filling up water bodies, canals and drains and focus, instead, on enhancing sewerage and stormwater drain networks. Existing sewerage networks need to be reworked and expanded to enable wastewater drainage in low-lying urban geographies. Rivers that overflow need to be desilted regularly along with a push for coastal walls in areas at risk from sea rise. Greater spending on flood-resilient architecture (river embankments, flood shelters in coastal areas and flood warning systems) is necessary. Protecting "blue infra" areas, i.e., places that act as natural sponges for absorbing surface runoff, allowing groundwater to be recharged, is a must. As rainfall patterns and intensity change, urban authorities will need to invest in simulation capacity to determine flooding hotspots and flood risk maps.

Looking ahead

Urban India does not have to embrace such risks. Instead, cities need to incorporate environmental planning and enhance natural open spaces. Urban master plans need to consider the impact of climate change and extreme weather; Bengaluru needs to think of 125 mm per hour peak rainfall in the future, as against the current 75 mm. Urban authorities in India should assess and update disaster risk and preparedness planning. Early warning systems will also be critical. Finally, each city needs to have a disaster management framework in place, with large arterial roads that allow people and goods to move freely. India's urban journey is not limited to an election cycle. It must plan for a multi-generational process.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

New Governors

Political criticism over the appointment of the former Supreme Court of India judge, Justice S. Abdul Nazeer, as the new Governor of Andhra Pradesh cannot be dismissed. People who were part of high office, especially from the judiciary, need not look for employment in the political arena once they retire from service. Ambitions are important but this should not be at the cost of one's image and integrity. One must recall the golden words of the BJP leader Arun Jaitley when he said 'pre-retirement judgments are influenced by post-retirement jobs and it's a threat to the independence of the judiciary'. His observation was candid going by the troubled Governor-State relations in the present day.

A.P. Thiruvadi,
Chennai

The list of appointees exposes the incumbent government's "award and reward mechanism" for loyalists and leaders. With these appointments, the strength of Governors and Lieutenant Governors directly related to the party in power only increases. A similar strategy was also adopted by the Congress earlier, so both national parties have used this to their advantage. These appointments and the recent cases of strife between the Chief Ministers of certain States and their Governors only highlight the importance of having a proper mechanism to appoint the Governor of a State. Reform is the need of the hour apart from a transparent mechanism that will instil trust in the public.

P.R. Vikram,
Periyapalayam, Tamil Nadu

Of all the gubernatorial appointments, it is that of the Governor of Andhra Pradesh which could have been avoided. The judge is one who happened to be a part of several important judgments in which the government was on the winning side. The government can present any number of non-partisan arguments in support of its decision, but what will stick out is the *quid pro quo* perception, which will not be in the best interests of the judiciary.

Athulya M.,
Hyderabad

Down memory lane

The photograph of tennis great Bjorn Borg with Indian star Vijay Amritraj, in Chennai, rekindled memories of the halcyon days of the Swede and his 11 Grand Slam singles titles ('Sport' page, February 13). In the 1970s and 1980s, Borg was tennis's biggest drawing card. Tennis had never really been so cool before Borg played it.

R. Sivakumar,
Chennai

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

Constitutional oath is not a mere formality

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The authors were among the petitioners before the Supreme Court in the case relating to the appointment of Justice Victoria Gowri

A Constitution is the basic law that lays the foundation for the governance of a country. It lays down broad policy/directives for the authorities and institutions tasked with its implementation.

Basic eligibility criteria for appointment to several high constitutional offices are prescribed in the Constitution. Yet, many silent disqualifications operate. These are implied and read into the eligibility criteria by courts, solely guided by the objective of upholding the Constitution and the law and the integrity of the institution for which the functionary is chosen.

Importing a disqualification

In *B.R. Kapur v. State of Tamil Nadu* (2001), the Governor's appointment of Jayalalithaa as Chief Minister despite her conviction for a criminal offence was called in question. Article 164(1) of the Constitution does not prescribe any disqualification for the appointment of a Chief Minister. Article 173, however, disqualifies a person with prior conviction from being a member of the Legislature. The court was confronted with the question of whether it could import a disqualification for a person being appointed as a Chief Minister, when none was prescribed. The Supreme Court said yes. It held, "The will of the people as expressed through the majority party prevails only if it is in accord with the Constitution. The Governor... is sworn to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution and the laws (Article 159). The Governor cannot... do anything that is contrary to the Constitution and the laws." The Governor's act of administering oath to Jayalalithaa after her conviction was declared unconstitutional.

The oath to be taken by a judge of a High Court under Schedule III of the Constitution requires a declaration of allegiance to the Constitution and performance of duties "without fear or favour, affection or ill-will". The appointee must also declare that she will "uphold" the Constitution and the laws. Such an oath is unique to the judges of the High Court and the Supreme Court, since they are the sentinels of the Constitution. The oath is a solemn assurance to the people that justice will be rendered without any bias. Does not a person who has shown religious bigotry become disabled from discharging the oath of office of a judge? Will such disability fall within the realm of mere suitability or essential eligibility?

Adhering to the oath

"Eligibility of a judge of a High Court should not be construed in a pedantic manner," declared the Supreme Court in *N. Kannadasan v. Ajoy Khose* (2009). An additional judge of the High Court, who was not appointed as a permanent judge due to allegations of lack of probity, was later recommended by the then Chief Justice of the Madras High Court for appointment as president of the State Consumer Commission. The appointment was declared illegal by the Supreme Court, which held that an independent and impartial judiciary should be manned by persons who dispense justice "without fear or favour, ill-will or affection." It held that a person who lacked the qualities necessary to adhere to the oath of office of a judge was ineligible for appointment to any judicial office. Thus, the capacity to dispense justice in terms of constitutional oath was held to be non-negotiable.

Inability to adhere to the Constitution as per the oath prescribed has been held to be a disqualification by a full Bench of the Madras High Court in the case of K.S. Haja Shareef (1983), who, after taking oath as a member of the Assembly to "bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution," accepted appointment as Honorary Consul General of Turkey at Madras. On such appointment, he had agreed to abide by the directives of a foreign State. The court held that such a person cannot be expected to be a member of the Legislature since a conflict of interest between the two countries would arise and the constitutional oath will prevail to unseat him.

Selection of judges

To limit 'eligibility' for appointment of a High Court judge to a minimum of 10 years of legal practice prescribed in Article 217(2) makes a mockery of the integrity and independence of the judiciary. Such a facile reading turns the solemn assurance of an impartial and fair judiciary into a hollow promise. Just as breach of the oath will result in removal, adherence to the Constitution should precede taking the oath of office.

Faced with opacity in judicial appointments/ transfers, the Supreme Court in *S.P. Gupta v. Union of India* (1981) directed the Government and the Chief Justice of India (CJI) to disclose all the materials. The judges held that their constitutional duty demanded such scrutiny through judicial review. They also held that if on scrutiny it was found that all the materials were not before the CJI (now collegium), the consultation/ selection process is defective and invalid.

The events leading up to the pronouncement of the Supreme Court regarding the selection of Justice Victoria Gowri reveal the fault lines between the government and the judiciary. The selection process came under a cloud once the CJI expressed in open court that materials now brought before the collegium were not available earlier. The collegium relies on the government's agencies to produce background materials of persons recommended to be judges. Transparency and accountability in the selection of judges alone will ensure an independent judiciary. The Preamble to the Constitution should permeate selection of every judge.

To limit 'eligibility' for appointment of a High Court judge to the minimum makes a mockery of the integrity and independence of the judiciary

A dream that could upset the BRS apple cart

How the AIMIM could play spoilsport for the BRS and the Congress

STATE OF PLAY

Ravi Reddy
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The spat between Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) Minister K.T. Rama Rao and All-India Majlis-e-Ittehadul-Muslimeen (AIMIM) floor leader Akbaruddin Owaisi in the Telangana Assembly last week would have been considered routine but for Mr. Owaisi's remark that his party will contest 50 seats in the upcoming Assembly elections and win at least 15.

This surprised political circles as the AIMIM has been seen as a close ally of the BRS since the bifurcation of united Andhra Pradesh. Also, the remark comes at a time when the BRS is making its foray into national politics with the aim of emerging as a strong opposition party to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) at the Centre. The AIMIM has always taken an anti-BJP stand. Its leaders openly air their reservations about the ruling party at the Centre in a bid to emerge as the champions of the cause of minorities across the country. Though the AIMIM and BRS have never struck an alliance, the AIMIM has always had an understanding with the ruling dispensation, whether it is led by the Congress or the BRS.

Since 2013, the AIMIM has been trying to expand its base outside Hyderabad by contesting Assembly elections, but without much success. In the 2020 Bihar Assembly elections, the party won five seats. But last year, four of its MLAs switched over to the Rashtriya Janata Dal. In the 2022 Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat elections, the AIMIM's performance was dismal. In both States, its candidates drew a blank and its vote share was less than one per cent. But the AIMIM's presence badly hit other major opposition parties such as the Congress, the Samajwadi Party and the Bahujan Samaj Party. The AIMIM has won elections to civic bodies in many States, but has failed to convert these victories into seats in Assembly and Lok Sabha elections.

It is amid this poor showing that Mr. Owaisi has challenged the ruling party in Telangana. But BRS leaders are unfazed. "If the AIMIM wants to contest the elections this year, it will only benefit the BJP, as was the case in other States," a BRS leader said. For this reason, the AIMIM is sometimes referred to by some leaders as the 'B team' of the BJP.

The AIMIM has always contested from seats where it is sure to win. The Old City of Hyderabad is its home turf. In 2018, it contested eight seats and won seven. The party has two MLCs in the Legislative Council and Mr. Owaisi's brother, Asaduddin Owaisi, represents the Hyderabad parliamentary constituency.

The AIMIM contested only 50 out of the 150 divisions in the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation elections three years ago. It won 45 seats. It extended outside support to the BRS, which won in 56 divisions. The TRS-MIM combine ensured that the post of Mayor went to the ruling party. The BJP made impressive gains in the same polls.

Telangana has 119 Assembly seats. Twenty-five constituencies are in the twin cities and their suburbs spread across the Medchal Malkajgiri and Ranga Reddy districts. In the House now, the BRS has 102 members, the AIMIM has seven, the Congress has five, the BJP three, and the All India Forward Bloc, one. One seat is held by an Independent candidate and one MLA is nominated from the Anglo-Indian community. If the AIMIM is serious about fighting the elections in 50 seats, it can at the most bag minority votes in only 29 Assembly constituencies. The majority of these lie in the twin cities and their suburbs. The AIMIM's influence is confined to certain urban pockets of north and south Telangana, but it is inadequate to win elections. The AIMIM has failed to cultivate rural voters. It has always indicated to its cadres that they must vote for parties that are opposed to the BJP if AIMIM candidates are not in the fray.

If the AIMIM tests its luck in 50 seats, the BRS and Congress may feel the pinch in some constituencies. This may upset the BRS's apple cart and deal a body blow to the Congress, which banks on securing the votes of minorities. The BJP too may not gain much as Telangana has never seen mass communal polarisation on the eve of elections.

Since 2018, the AIMIM has indirectly supported the BRS in electoral battles outside Hyderabad. Its recent decision could have an impact on the BRS's performance since minority votes, which were going to the ruling party, could be split. The AIMIM could play spoilsport for the BRS and the Congress as it is not in a position to win seats by consolidating Muslim votes.

Private tuitions helped blunt learning loss in many States

States which recorded a drastic decrease in maths and reading skills also saw a decline in private tuition-takers post-pandemic

DATA POINT

Swethavimala M. & Vignesh Radhakrishnan

The data points published on January 23 and February 1 showed that the maths skills and reading skills of rural school students in the southern and western States were impacted the most due to COVID-19. Further reading of the Annual Status of Education Report (2022) shows that in many southern and western States, the share of children taking paid private tuition classes reduced after the COVID-19 outbreak, while it increased in all other regions.

Notably, Gujarat, where reading ability was the poorest among all the States in 2022, recorded the biggest decrease in students taking tuition classes post-pandemic. Similarly, the share of students who took tuition classes also decreased in the southern States of Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka – all of which recorded drastic declines in maths and reading skills. Interestingly, Andhra Pradesh, the only southern State which recorded an increase in the share of students who could do division problems post-pandemic, was also the only southern State which saw a significant increase in tuition-going children. Telangana and Rajasthan recorded only meagre increases.

None of the States in the central, eastern, northern and north-eastern regions, except Tripura, recorded a decrease in private tuition-going children in 2022 compared to 2018. Many States in these regions recorded an increase in the share of Class VIII children who could carry out division sums and read Standard II-level text post-pandemic. Even in those States where the share declined, the decrease was not as steep as their southern counterparts.

However, it is also important to note that the share of students who took private coaching was already relatively high in many eastern, north-eastern and northern States and only further increased during the pandemic. On the other hand, the share was relatively low in western and southern States and further declined after the pandemic in many of them. This data suggests that while the pandemic-forced school closures led to a drastic fall in learning outcomes, private tuitions helped fill the void or at least helped blunt the impact that COVID-19 had on education.

Chart 1 shows the share of Class I-VIII rural school students who took paid private tuition classes in 2022. The share in the southern, western and central States was low compared to other regions.

Chart 2 shows the change in the share of Class I-VIII rural school students who took paid private tuition classes in 2022 compared to 2018. Only Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra recorded significant increases among the southern and western States.

Chart 3 shows the share of Class I rural school students who took paid private tuition classes in 2022. It shows that the private coaching culture starts at a very young age in the eastern, north-eastern and northern States.

In States where the coaching culture was already prevalent and in regions where children began attending private classes from an early age, the increase in the share of students who took tuitions was much sharper post-pandemic.

Chart 4 shows the difference between the share of Class I-VIII private students and government students who took paid tuition classes in 2022. The higher the number, the more the share of private school students. A negative figure indicates the opposite. The graph shows that in all States (except Kerala and West Bengal), the share of private school students who took paid tuitions was higher, showing that the richer classes were able to manage the pandemic-forced learning losses better compared to poorer households.

Taking another route

The graphs are based on data collated from the Annual Status of Education Report - 2022 (Rural), based on a survey conducted between September and November 2022

Chart 1: The share of Class I-VIII rural school students who took paid private tuition classes in 2022

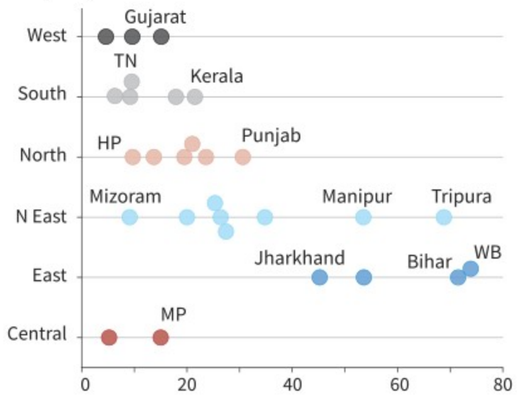


Chart 2: The change in the share of Class I-VIII rural school students who took tuitions in 2022 compared to 2018

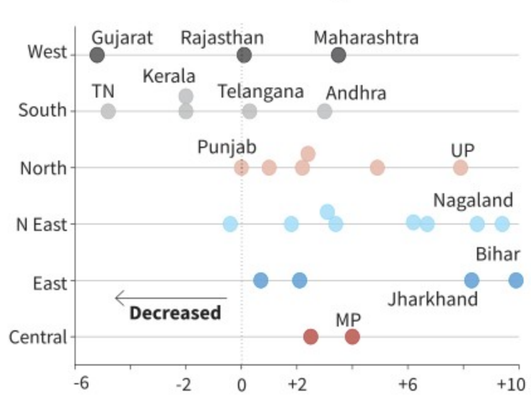


Chart 3: The share of **Class I** rural school students who took paid private tuition classes in 2022

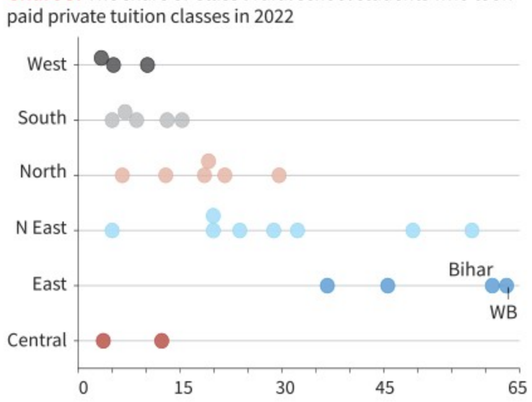
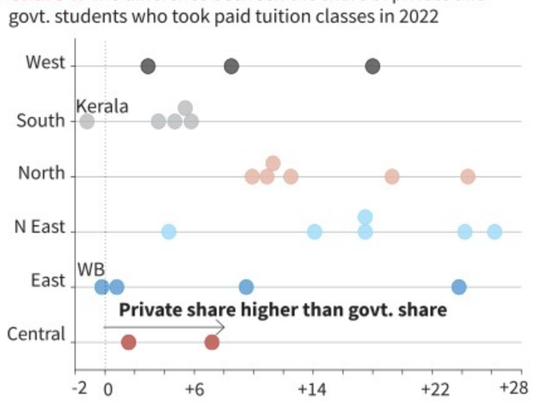


Chart 4: The difference between the share of private and govt. students who took paid tuition classes in 2022



Swethavimala M. is a student of Asian College of Journalism

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO FEBRUARY 14, 1973

Dollar devalued by 10 per cent: Yen to Float

Washington, Feb. 13: The United States has devalued the dollar by another 10 per cent and President Nixon has asked Congress to raise the price of gold from $38 to $42.22 an ounce. The U.S. action came in the wake of the latest currency crisis which has been rocking world exchange markets for the last few days. Its intended effect is to make imported products dearer and American goods more competitive abroad. The announcement, made on the U.S.'s own initiative, but after consultations with its major trading partners, was announced by Treasury Secretary George Shultz at a late night news conference, after he had conferred with Mr. Nixon earlier in the day. Though a devaluation of the dollar had been forecast ever since the latest crisis came to surface, last night's announcement was so sudden that the early morning editions of some newspapers missed it. Mr. Shultz said that the devaluation move would be accompanied by a float of the Japanese yen so that the dollar-yen gap would be wider than 10 per cent. The European currencies will not be realigned, as was the case after the Smithsonian negotiations in December 1971.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO FEBRUARY 14, 1923

Memel affair

London, Feb. 12: It is foreshadowed that Memel will shortly be handed over to Lithuania following the discussions at the Conference of Ambassadors, the meeting of which to-day noted the Allied report from Memel showing that the Allies' demands have been satisfactorily carried out.

(British Official Wireless) Leafield (Oxford) Midnight, Feb. 13: All the meeting of the Conference of Ambassadors in Paris yesterday the Allied report showing that Lithuania had carried out the Allied demands regarding Memel was discussed. It appeared that armed bands had been withdrawn and a provisional Government had been set up. It is expected that a decision will be taken by the Conference probably on Thursday embodying the principle of transferring the sovereignty of Memel to Lithuania subject to certain conditions and that the Lithuanian Government will be invited to accept the principle and to send representatives to Paris to complete the details in connection with the formal convention.

From Page One

Adani case: Centre has no objection to SC panel

"So that we have something on paper to apply our minds to. We will have a discussion and then pronounce the order," Chief Justice Chandrachud responded.

A 22-page submission note shared by the SEBI, also represented by advocate Pratap Venugopal, in court said the market regulator was already enquiring into the allegations made in the Hindenburg report as well as the market activity immediately preceding and post the publication of the report to identify violations of SEBI Regulations.

The market regulator attempted to allay fears by saying that the events concerning the Adani Group following the Hindenburg report were "localised to a single group of companies and that there is no significant impact at a market-wide level or at a system-wide level, that might warrant a system-level review of the regulatory frameworks in operation". It said Indian markets had seen "far higher turbulent times in the past, especially during COVID".

SC upholds formation of J&K delimitation panel

Justice Oka had said the notifications drew their power specifically from Section 62(2) of the 2019 Act. Section 62(2) provided for the readjustment of constituencies to be carried out by the Delimitation Commission.

The court questioned why the petitioners, without challenging the source of the government's notifications – that is Section 62(2), had confined their challenge solely to the notifications.

Retail inflation rises to 3-month high in Jan.

There were no base effects at play as January 2022 had recorded 6.01% retail inflation, the beginning of a ten-month streak over the 6% upper tolerance threshold set for the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) that included an eight-year high inflation of 7.8% last April and culminated in October at 6.77%.

The higher than expected rebound in January's price rise may persist for a couple of more months, economists reckoned, and may compel the RBI to consider yet another rate hike at its next monetary policy review. It had projected an average 5.7% pace of price rise for this quarter that now looks difficult to attain unless there's a significant mellowing down in prices over February and March. Vegetables that had reported a 15.1% fall in prices in December 2022, continued to be in deflationary territory falling 11.7% in January 2023, but most other food items continued to witness spiralling prices.

Among the major States, Telangana recorded the highest inflation in January at 8.6%, followed by Andhra Pradesh (8.25%), Madhya Pradesh (8.13%), Uttar Pradesh (7.45%) and Haryana (7.05%).

'Worried' about pending transfers, SC says a 'lot more' needs to be done

Court had in the past wondered how some collegium recommendations were cleared 'overnight', while others took ages; in the hearing held on February 3, it put the government on a 10-day ultimatum to clear pending transfers in High Courts

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The government's delay in clearing certain pending transfers, including that of Orissa High Court Chief Justice S. Muralidhar to Madras and the reiterated collegium recommendation of senior advocate Saurabh Kirpal for appointment as a Delhi High Court judge, saw a "worried" Supreme Court observe that a "lot more" is needed to be done, though "some developments" have happened since the last hearing on February 3.

"Some developments have happened, but a lot more is needed to be done," a three-judge Bench, led by Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul, orally said.

Justice Kaul was accompanied by Justices Manoj Misra and Aravind Kumar, two new appointments to the Supreme Court. Justice Misra was among a batch of five judges whose appointments were cleared on February 4, after a wait of nearly two months since the collegium recommended their names for top court judgeships on December 13 last year.

Justices Kumar and Justice Rajesh Bindal took oath as top court judges on Monday, about two weeks after the collegium recommended their names on January 31. The court had in the past wondered how some names were cleared "overnight" while others took ages.

> The delay in transfers not only affects the administration of justice but creates an impression as if there are third party sources interfering
> **SUPREME COURT**

"This cannot go on endlessly. At some point, My Lords have to crack the whip," advocate Prashant Bhushan submitted.

Long delay

A note submitted by senior advocate Arvind Datar and Amit Pai features Justice Muralidhar's name as first in a list of nine High Court judges recommended by the collegium for transfer to other High Courts in September-November last year.

They said the regular Chief Justiceship in Madras High Court has been vacant since September 12 last year.

In fact, the collegium had recommended the transfer of Justice T. Raja, the current Acting Chief Justice of the High Court, to Rajasthan on November 24, 2022. Justice Raja is scheduled to retire on May 24, 2023.

The collegium had proposed Justice Muralidhar's transfer on September 28, 2022.

He is scheduled to retire on August 7, 2023.

Mr. Datar urged the top court to lay down a timeline for the government to notify a transfer in the interest of the administration of justice.

In fact, Law Minister Kiren Rijiju flagged the issue of a lack of a timeline in the Memorandum of Procedure for judicial transfers in the Lok Sabha on February 10.

The Supreme Court, in the previous hearing on February 3, put the government on a 10-day ultimatum to clear pending transfers in High Courts.

Attorney-General R. Venkataramani on February 3 sought more time. He did not appear on Monday. His office sought an adjournment.

In a January 6 hearing, the court had said delay in transfers "not only affects the administration of justice but creates an impression as if there are third party sources interfering on behalf of these judges with the government".

Another list in the note submitted by Mr. Datar and Mr. Pai shows 13 pending reiterated recommendations for appointment to the High Courts, including that of Mr. Kirpal, who was first recommended on November 11, 2021 and reiterated again on January 18, 2023.

The Bench listed the case again on March 2.

It's up to State to rehabilitate those evicted, says Vaishnaw

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Amid the threat of eviction looming large over 70,000 people in Haldwani in Uttarakhand, Minister of Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw said in the Rajya Sabha that housing is a State subject and responsibility for providing alternative sites for rehabilitation or resettlement as well as bearing cost of the same vests with the State governments or urban local bodies.

"Section 147 of Railway Act only provides for eviction of unauthorised occupants from Railway land," he said in a written reply.

On the steps taken by the government to clarify the policy of ownership of disputed land, he said as per the authenticated land plan of 2003 duly certified by revenue authorities and as per a joint survey report of 2017 conducted by team of Railways, Revenue and Nagar Nigam authorities of the area, the ownership of the land vests with the Railways.

Justices Bindal and Kumar take oath as SC judges, fill the last two vacancies

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Justice D.Y. Chandrachud administering the oath of office to Justice Rajesh Bindal as a Supreme Court judge on Monday. PTI

Justices Rajesh Bindal and Aravind Kumar took the oath of faith and allegiance to the Constitution and filled the last two vacancies in the 34-member Supreme Court Bench on Monday.

The Supreme Court, led by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud, is functioning with full capacity now. Seventeen Benches heard cases listed chock-a-block on Monday.

'No tinkering'

Justice Bindal was the Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court and Justice Kumar the Chief Justice of the Gujarat High Court at the time of their elevation to the top court.

The Supreme Court Collegium had recommended their names for appointment to the top court on January 31.

The government had fully complied with the collegium's direction that the five should be appointed as a batch and there should be no tinkering with the seniority.

While the resolution of the collegium with regard to the appointment of Justice Bindal was "unanimous", Justice Joseph was of the opinion that Justice Aravind Kumar could be considered at a later stage.

On the choice of Justice Bindal, the collegium had reasoned that he was number two in the all-India seniority of High Court judges and the senior-most judge from the Punjab and Haryana High Court.

J&K parties express varied reactions to SC verdict on J&K delimitation panel

Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

M.Y Tarigami of the CPI(M) says the SC decision is one more disappointment for people of J&K

J&K parties, including the National Conference (NC) and the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), on Monday expressed unhappiness over the Supreme Court's decision to dismiss a petition challenging the constitution of the J&K Delimitation Commission and its recent exercise in the Union Territory. Meanwhile, the BJP has welcomed it.

Former Chief Minister and PDP president Mehbooba Mufti said her party had already rejected the J&K Delimitation Commission and the J&K Reorganisation Act. "An SC decision on the J&K Reorganisation Act as well as Article 370 is yet to come. The commission was a tactical rigging ahead of the election to convert a majority population into a minority in J&K," Ms. Mufti said.

The NC, which participated in the delimitation exercise, also expressed unhappiness. "The NC from day one made it clear that the entire process of delimitation in J&K was unconstitutional. It's a lie that any region or a section of society was less represented earlier," NC provincial president Rattan Lal Gupta said.

CPI(M) leader M.Y Tarigami termed the SC decision "another disappointment for people of J&K". "The delimitation process under the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act is unacceptable," Mr. Tarigami said.

Congress leader Ravinder Sharma said the Congress wanted delimitation as per settled pattern and norms, where criteria like population, connectivity and administrative convenience should have been taken into consideration. "However, the exercise resulted in carving our constituencies with 1.92 lakh voters at one place and 54 lakh voters at another place. There is a huge gap in constituencies and has resulted in discrimination. We respect the decision of the SC though," Mr. Sharma said.

Meanwhile, the BJP welcomed the SC decision. "The SC has shown a mirror to all those who keep questioning the Constitution" it said.

Geo-sciences community calls for broad panel of experts to power heritage Bill

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

A draft Bill, aimed at protecting India's geological heritage that includes fossils, sedimentary rocks, natural structures, has raised alarm in India's geosciences and palaeontology community.

The Draft Geo-heritage Sites and Geo-relics (Preservation and Maintenance) Bill, 2022, while deemed necessary by several researchers, vests powers entirely in the Geological Survey of India (GSI), a 170-year-old organisation that comes under the Ministry of Mines.

Provisions of the Bill give it the power to declare sites as having 'geo-heritage' value, take possession of relics (fossils, rocks) that rest in private hands, prohibit construction 100 metres around such a site, penalise – with fines up to ₹5 lakh and possibly imprisonment – vandalism, defacement, and violations of directives of a site by the Director General of GSI.

"We welcome a Geo-heritage Bill, however, rather than have all authority in the Director General, GSI, there needs to be a broader committee of experts from a wider range of institutions. This would mean that the interests and difficulties faced by researchers, who actually work in the field, are kept in mind," G.V.R. Prasad, palaeontologist and head of Delhi University's geology department, told *The Hindu*. In 2019, the Indian National Science Academy and a group called the Society of Earth Sciences had submitted a proposal to the government to establish a broad-based National Geoheritage Authority that would advise State governments on conservation, setting up geo-heritage parks, deciding on the geological importance of sites and administer the possession of fossils or other relics in these regions.

A highly placed official in government told *The Hindu* that the current version of the Bill was unlikely to be placed before the Union Cabinet, a pre-requisite for it to be brought to Parliament.

Russian reluctance to leave Ukraine is the real problem: Plotner

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

Russia's unwillingness to exit from its "neighbouring country" was responsible for prolonging of the Ukrainian crisis, Jens Plotner said. The Foreign and Security Policy Advisor to German Chancellor Olaf Scholz is on a visit to India.

Dr. Plotner on Monday met his Indian counterpart, National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajit Doval, and said India has an "important voice" in resolving the year-long crisis.

"We have great admiration for Indian diplomacy... This having been said, we do not have a shortage at the moment for mediators but we have an acute shortage of Russia's willingness to stop this war and get out of its neighbouring country," Dr. Plotner said in an interaction with the media at the residence here of Germany's Ambassador to India, Philipp Ackermann.

The discussion between Dr. Plotner and top Indian policymakers is part of the prelude to the expected visit by Mr. Scholz later this month.

Last week, Mr. Doval attended the fifth meeting of NSAs on Afghanistan in Moscow, which was also addressed by Russian President Putin.

In an expanding diplomatic initiative, Mr. Doval, alongside Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has maintained communication with both the Russian and the Ukrainian sides since the start of Russia's "special military operation" against Ukraine in February 2022.

The high-level visit from Germany has come in the backdrop of India's continued purchase of oil from Russia, which was criticised initially by Western powers. Dr. Plotner refused to criticise India saying that his country had imported energy from Russia for many decades.

Law Minister Rijiju scoffs at criticism over appointment of ex-SC judge as Governor

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

> The whole eco-system is once again in full swing on the appointment of a Governor... India will be guided by the people as per the provisions of the Constitution
> **KIREN RIJIJU**
> Law Minister

Responding to the Congress's sharp attack on the Narendra Modi government for appointing retired Supreme Court judge Justice S. Abdul Nazeer as the Governor of Andhra Pradesh, Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju on Monday said the "whole ecosystem is once again in full swing".

Without naming anyone, Mr. Rijiju said they should better understand that they can no longer treat India as their "personal fiefdom". He tweeted: "The Whole Eco-system is once again in full swing on the appointment of a Governor. They should better understand that, they can no more treat India as their personal fiefdom. Now, India will be guided by the people of India as per the provisions of the Constitution of India."

On Sunday, Justice Nazeer (retd) was among the six new faces appointed as Governors. The former Supreme Court judge, who retired in January, was part of the five-judge Bench that delivered the Ayodhya verdict. He also headed a Bench that upheld the November 2016 demonestisation decision.

Attacking the government over Justice Nazeer's appointment, the Congress had called the move a "threat" to the independence of the judiciary.

"This issue is not about individuals but about principles. As a matter of fact, the person in question is a very fine person and a good judge. But it affects the independence of the judiciary that is a part of the basic structure of the Constitution," Congress spokesperson Abhishek Singhvi told *The Hindu*.

On Sunday, Congress leader Jairam Ramesh shared on Twitter a 2012 comment by the late Arun Jaitley in which he had said "pre-retirement judgments are influenced by the desire of a post-retirement job".

"Adequate proof of this in the past 3-4 years for sure," Mr. Ramesh added.

Direct EPFO to issue pension circular, MP tells Minister

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Communist Party of India (Marxist) MP John Brittas has urged Union Minister for Labour and Employment Bhupender Yadav to give directions to the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) for an immediate follow-up to the Supreme Court's directions on enabling sections of employees and pensioners to opt for higher pension.

In a letter, the MP said the EPFO should issue a fresh circular and roll out an online facility for enabling those who were in service as on September 1, 2014 to submit the option, considering the fact that the period of four months, given by the court for the same would expire by March 4.

He criticised the EPFO for showing "lethargic and scornful attitude" towards the implementation of the court's directives.

Success of Rahul's yatra may cut both ways in forging Opposition unity

NEWS ANALYSIS

Varghese K. George
NEW DELHI

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra was a success, certainly from his vantage point. But the success of the yatra may be pushing Opposition politics to a stalemate ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha election.

First, the success. The yatra has, as many pointed out, restyled Mr. Gandhi and restored him to the front and centre of Opposition politics. He announced the yatra at a time when everyone was confused about his plans after he decided not to return as president of the Congress. A group within the party had raised questions about the drift in the party's leadership. Other Opposition leaders were trying to spread their wings – Trinamool Congress leader and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and her Telangana counterpart and Bharat Rashtra Samithi leader, K. Chandrashekar Rao, made their national ambitions clear, sensing an opportunity to displace the Congress as the axis of non-BJP politics.

Mr. Gandhi's yatra put a lid on it. It is now difficult, if not impossible, to envisage a viable Opposition to the BJP without the Congress, or Mr. Gandhi, after the yatra.

The yatra refurbished his image, and he is now increasingly seen as someone capable of listening and leading. Alongside the yatra, he snuffed out the putative rebellion in the party. Faced with the prospects of choosing one among themselves as the Congress chief, the self-styled reformists in the party fell in line with Mr. Gandhi and rallied behind Mallikarjun Kharge, the chosen one of the first family, who was elected president.

Political issue: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi at the Bharat Jodo Yatra in New Delhi. FILE PHOTO

Galvanising civil society

Mr. Gandhi's yatra galvanised India's civil society organisations. Civil society organisations have had a strange relationship with the Congress for long. On the one hand, they received Congress patronage and on the other, they undermined the party, as open detractors and as Trojan horses in the camp.

The rise of Hindutva brought the state sledgehammer so hard on them that many had lost all hope. Causes that they champion – from environment to human rights, indigenous rights to gender violence – were all orphaned in the recent years. The yatra has given them a new hope. They found a new platform to congregate on, and gained a new lease of life.

All this, however, is not leading to any unified, purposeful Opposition to the BJP ahead of 2024. The Opposition is in the risk of hurtling towards a stalemate. Regional chiefs who may have an interest in confronting the BJP now know that Mr. Gandhi is at the centre stage, but they are not yet willing to accept his leadership.

In fact, political calculations at the beginning of 2022 were premised on Mr. Gandhi's continuing decline within the Congress and outside. A post-Rahul future of the Congress was being discussed. The yatra has not merely quelled that speculation, but also become an opportunity for him to demonstrate a possessive passion for politics.

The new Rahul Gandhi

But this success is the recipe for a new stalemate. While Mr. Gandhi has perched himself as the moral authority within the party and the larger Opposition universe, he does not want to, or cannot, exercise his authority to resolve issues within the party in Rajasthan, Maharashtra or Karnataka.

He appears to be staying aloof from electoral and organisational politics. One of Mr. Gandhi's new-found followers, Yogendra Yadav, had once said that the death of the Congress was a precondition for any alternative politics in India.

Mr. Gandhi ensured that the Congress does not die, and he is not wished away. At the same time, he has not garnered enough strength to force all of his colleagues, not to talk of regional satraps, to rally behind him. In other words, the stalemate is that there cannot be Opposition politics without him, but his role in a broad coalition remains a tough puzzle.

The onus is on Mr. Gandhi to break this stalemate. The Rahul Gandhi you know is dead, he declared enigmatically, during the yatra. There is apparently a new Gandhi. The new Gandhi needs to stand up.

Amid protest, Rajya Sabha adjourned till March 13

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Amid continued protests and sloganeering by Opposition members on Monday over the Adani row, the first part of the Budget Session of the Rajya Sabha was adjourned till March 13.

Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar cautioned Leader of the Opposition (LoP) Mallikarjun Kharge for "casting aspersions on the Chair" and expunged his remarks.

Mr. Dhankar said, "My greatest problem is that when on an issue, I give the floor, it goes on a tangent. LoP wanted to speak on an aspect of expunging of observations... And, given the status of the LoP, I permitted him to hold the floor. He held the floor and started reading out the portions I had expunged."

Mr. Kharge rose to speak about the February 9 incident when a portion of his speech on the Adani Group was expunged. The Opposition also raised objection to the suspension of senior member Rajani Patil.

Mr. Dhankhar spoke about deliberate obstruction of proceedings. Asking the Opposition to maintain decorum and allow question hour to continue, he said, "Does the public expect us to be like this... It does not."

Leader of the House Piyush Goyal asked Opposition MPs to apologise for their behaviour during the Prime Minister's speech while replying to the Motion of Thanks. Only after that, he said, could the demand for revocation of suspension be considered.

Why can't govt. agree to joint House panel on Adani issue, asks Congress

Do you fear that a truly independent probe might implicate you personally in group's wrongdoings, asks Jairam Ramesh; Adhir writes to the Speaker over privilege notice served on Rahul Gandhi over his February 7 speech in the Lok Sabha

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Monday asked why the Narendra Modi government could not agree to a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) to probe the Hindenburg Research report's allegations against the Adani Group if it could agree to set up a committee before the Supreme Court.

Party's general secretary (communications) Jairam Ramesh, in a tweet, also asked if the proposed committee of experts would examine the New York-based Hindenburg Research or the Adani Group.

"Today in Supreme Court, Solicitor-General said govt. has no objection to a committee to examine the Hindenburg report on Adani. Then why the stubborn refusal to a JPC which will anyway be dominated by BJP & its allies? But will the proposed committee investigate Hindenburg or Adani," Mr. Ramesh asked.

> In SC, Solicitor-General said govt. has no objection to a committee to examine the Hindenburg report on Adani. Then why the stubborn refusal to JPC?
>
> **JAIRAM RAMESH**
> Congress general secretary

Separately, Congress leader in the Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury wrote to Speaker Om Birla over the privilege notice served on former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi over his February 7 Lok Sabha speech and comments made against Mr. Modi.

'Public interest'

"The issue was raised in the 'public interest' and for the service of the nation," Mr. Chowdhury said, adding that BJP leaders who make derogatory remarks against members of the Gandhi-Nehru family were "never admonished or reprimanded".

In a related development, the Congress also posed a series of questions to Prime Minister Modi under the *Hum Adani ke Hain Kaun* series.

Mr. Ramesh alleged that as far back as 2007, the market regulator, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), while conducting an investigation into the volatility of stocks of Adani Exports (now Adani Enterprise) had found that "entities associated with notorious stock manipulator Ketan Parekh (KP) had indulged in manipulative activities such as synchronised trading/circular trading and creation of artificial volume to influence the price in the scrip of Adani".

"Why did SEBI tolerate an even more extreme rise in Adani Group stock prices after 2020 without investigating it with the required seriousness," Mr. Ramesh asked, adding that "a close relative of Mr. Parekh may be still maintaining links with the Adani group."

He further added that both the Congress and the BJP governments, in the past, had formed JPCs to probe stock manipulation.

"What are you afraid of? Do you fear that a truly independent investigation might implicate you personally in the Adani Group's wrongdoings," Mr. Ramesh asked.

Lok Sabha goes into month-long recess

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Lok Sabha went into a month-long recess after it adjourned on Monday evening and will meet again on March 13.

The first part of the Budget session started with President Droupadi Murmu's Address to a joint sitting of Parliament on January 31 and Prime Minister Narendra Modi responding to a debate on the Motion of Thanks to the Address.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman tabled the Budget, the last full Budget of the Modi government before the next Lok Sabha election. It also witnessed disruptions over the Opposition demand to set up a joint parliamentary committee to probe the allegations of stock manipulation by the Adani Group.

Governor to continue as Chancellor of W.B. varsities

The Hindu Bureau
KOLKATA

With the tussle between the Raj Bhavan and the State Secretariat a thing of the past, West Bengal Governor C.V. Ananda Bose will continue to function as the Chancellor of State universities.

Last year, five Bills were passed in the West Bengal Legislative Assembly replacing the Governor with Chief Minister as the Chancellor of State Universities. The Bills are awaiting the approval of the Raj Bhavan and it seems that the State government does not want to push for it.

"As far as the amendment replacing the Governor with Chief Minister as Chancellor is concerned, it was decided to continue with the present system," a press statement from the Raj Bhavan said.

A change in the attitude of the West Bengal government was evident ever since Mr. Bose took over office in November 2022. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, who had described the Governor as a "gentleman", had said that issues such as who would be Chancellor of the State universities would be sorted out through discussion.

The Statement said that for the past two months, the Governor had been focusing on "upholding the Constitution of India, ensuring the rule of law and promoting the welfare of the people of Bengal".

Boosting ties: Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra with Nepal Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' on Monday. PTI

Foreign Secretary Kwatra meets Nepal PM in Kathmandu

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

Foreign Secretary Vinay Mohan Kwatra on Monday met Nepal's new Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' in Kathmandu.

The meeting marked the first high-level interaction between India and Nepal since the new Left-dominated government took charge on December 26, 2022.

The Indian Embassy in Kathmandu described Monday's discussion as "productive" that covered "various sectors, including economic and development cooperation". Mr. Kwatra also met Nepal's President Bidhya Devi Bhandari at her official residence.

He was received at the Tribhuvan International Airport by India's Ambassador to Nepal Naveen Srivastava and proceeded to meet Nepal's Minister of Foreign Affairs Bimala Rai Paudyal. While the Indian side has maintained silence about the agenda of this "stand alone" visit by Mr. Kwatra, it is understood that his interactions in Kathmandu is aimed at ensuring high-level exchanges between the two sides.

"Various aspects of Nepal-India relations including the power sector cooperation, trade, transit, education, culture, healthcare and connectivity infrastructure were discussed during the meeting," the Foreign Ministry of Nepal said after the interaction between the Indian Foreign Secretary and Dr. Paudyal.

Mr. Kwatra's visit coincided with the growing instability in the month-and-a-half-old government of Prime Minister Prachanda. Mr. Prachanda had declared February 13 a national holiday to mark the starting of Maoist rebellion against Nepal's erstwhile monarchy.

This move has been strongly opposed by certain members of the ruling coalition.

Cong. releases 'chargesheet' against govt. in Meghalaya

The Hindu Bureau
TURA

The Congress released a "chargesheet" on Monday against the National People's Party-led coalition government in poll-bound Meghalaya for corruption that is "unprecedented in scale and shamelessness".

The BJP is a minor constituent of the government.

The "grand Meghalaya loot", as the Congress called the chargesheet, could not have taken place without the "knowledge and blessings" of Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma.

The chargesheet listing 10 cases of scams and financial irregularities was released in Shillong on Monday by Congress leaders Pawan Khera, Mathew Antony and Bobbeeta Sharma. The collapse of the dome of the new Meghalaya Assembly building being constructed at Mawdiangdiang on the outskirts of Shillong topped the chargesheet as a "case of ransom". The dome collapsed on May 22, 2022.

The chargesheet said the contract for the building, estimated at ₹105.59 crore over a completion period of 36 months, was awarded to the Lucknow-based Uttar Pradesh Rajkiya Nirman Nigam Ltd. for ₹127.76 crore. But the U.P. company subcontracted the project to two firms that were disqualified during the bidding process and the project cost escalated to ₹177.78 crore.

Top Congress leaders remain absent from campaign in Tripura

Syed Sajjad Ali
AGARTALA

Tripura Congress leaders have not received confirmation of a visit by Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Tuesday at the time of going to press. Tuesday is the last day of campaigning for the Assembly election to be held on February 16.

Party leader Sudip Roy Barman had said that Mr. Kharge would be in Agartala on Tuesday in response to a query on why the party's top leaders were skipping the campaign.

The Tripura unit of the party reportedly approached the Gandhi family, Mr. Kharge, Chief Ministers, senior leaders of the northeastern States, and crowd pullers like Kanhaiya Kumar, but none of them came.

The Congress's Lok Sabha leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, MP from West Bengal Deepa Dasmunsi, and State in-charge Ajoy Kumar attended a few rallies. The party's election observers for Tripura – Assam MP Abdul Khaleque, leader Arvinder Singh Lovely and Rajya Sabha MP Mukul Wasnik, who were tasked with supervising elections in three States in the northeast – spent only a day in Tripura.

The party is visibly lagging behind the star-studded BJP campaign. State leaders are working closely with the CPI(M), which has a strong organisation, to take on the ruling BJP.

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice

Tender No: 83/22-23/SE/PHC/PKD, **JAL JEEVAN MISSION - 2020-21** - WSS to Pudussery panchayath Design, Construction, commissioning and maintenance of 5 MLD WTP, 2 LL OHSR at WTP compound, 3 LL OHSR at Walayar, Raw water Booster station near KINFRA, supplying, laying, testing, commissioning and maintenance of Raw Water Pumping Main, Clear Water Pumping Mains to OHSRs including laying along NH 544 by HDD method, distribution systems with providing FHTCs 3750 Nos including surveying and distribution network design, Supply and erection of RW Booster pump and CW Pump sets including Railway line crossing by HDD method, **EMD:** Rs. 500000, **Tender fee :** Rs. 16540, **Last Date for submitting Tender :** 07-03-2023 03:00 pm, **Phone:** 04912544927. **Website: www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**
KWA-JB-GL-6-1619-2022-23 Superintending Engineer, PH Circle, Palakkad

राष्ट्रीय इस्पात निगम लिमिटेड
RASHTRIYA ISPAT NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of India Enterprise)
VISAKHAPATNAM STEEL PLANT
WORKS CONTRACTS DEPARTMENT
REGISTRATION OF CONTRACTORS
REF. No.VSP/WC/REGN-P/2022-23, Dt: 14-02-2023
1. Fresh applications are invited online for **Registration of Contractors** for various works in Visakhapatnam Steel Plant.
2. **Registered Agencies having validity up to 31/08/2023 need to apply for renewal of Regiration, online.**
3. Last date for submission of **"ONLINE"** application:**on or before 06th March, 2023**.
The applications will be processed on First-cum-first serve basis.
4. Print out of the filled in online application, duly signed, with all supporting documents along with DD/BC for Rs.1,100/- in favour of RINL-Payable at Visakhapatnam towards Registration application cost &processing fee, shall be submitted in a file to "The office of CGM(Works Contracts)-I/c, 2nd Floor, Works Contracts Department", **on or before 13th March, 2023.**
5. Contact:Shri VGC Jayaram,DGM & Convener-CRC, Works Contracts, Cell:9000528529
Chief General Manager(WC)
For online Application form, other details & corrigendums please visit regularly www.vizagsteel.com / Contracts / Common Contractors Registration

KERALA INFRASTRUCTURE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR EDUCATION
General Education Department, Government of Kerala
QUOTATION
Expression of Interest / Quotation are invited from competent and experienced firm for entering to Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract (CAMC) for maintaining RF Equipments installed at KITE VICTERS Studio, Poojappura, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
LAST DATE : 21.02.2023
For further details : visit **www.kite.kerala.gov.in**

Karnataka Urban Infrastructure Development and Finance Corporation Limited (KUIDFC)
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Nagarabhivruddhi Bhavan, No.22, 17th 'F' Cross, Old Madras Road, Indiranagar 2nd Stage, Near BMTC Bus Depot, Bengaluru - 560 038.
Phone: 080-25196124-129 e-Mail: **info@kuidfc.com** Website: **www.kuidfc.com**
INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR DEVELOPMENT OF INTEGRATED TOWNSHIPS IN KARNATAKA ON PPP MODE
Government of Karnataka intends to develop Integrated Townships on PPP Mode at 6 or more locations in Karnataka across the districts like Mysuru, Haveri, Chikkaballapura, Chitradurga, Kolar and Ramanagara. Karnataka Urban Infrastructure Development and Finance Corporation Limited (**KUIDFC**) is the nodal agency for the proposed Project and it hereby invites **"Expression of Interest" (EOI)** from well-established organizations for **"Development of Integrated Townships in Karnataka" on PPP Model.**
Important dates: EOI documents can be downloaded from e-procurement portal of GoK (https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in) from **13.02.2023** onwards. Pre-application conference: **04.03.2023, 11.30 hrs**. Last date for submission of EOI: **14.03.2023, 17.30 hrs**. Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours. Any further changes pertaining to the EOI will be uploaded in e-procurement platform only. **Contact: General Manager (Town Planning Cell), PH: 080-25196124-Ext:214 email: info@kuidfc.com**
Sd/- General Manager (Urban Affairs), KUIDFC

INBRIEF

PM to open TRIFED's Aadi Mahotsav in Delhi on Feb. 16

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate TRIFED's Aadi Mahotsav festival on Thursday at Major Dhyan Chand Stadium in New Delhi, Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda said on Monday. The Aadi Mahotsav is TRIFED's (Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Ltd.) flagship event which will feature the exhibition-cum-sale of tribal handicrafts, handloom, paintings, jewellery, cane and bamboo, pottery, food, natural products, and tribal cuisine among many artefacts at over 200 stalls inside the stadium. Mr. Munda added that more than 1,000 tribal artisans and artists from 28 States and UTs will take part in the festival.

Tharoor for a comprehensive law to protect health workers

Congress leader Shashi Tharoor on Monday said close to 75% of doctors in the country had faced physical abuse of some kind, and demanded comprehensive legislation to check violence against healthcare professionals. Speaking in the Lok Sabha, the Kerala MP said the government had introduced a Bill to protect doctors facing physical harm from the kin of patients, but it was withdrawn later. Mr. Tharoor said the existing laws to deal with such incidents were weak and demanded a stringent law to prevent such incidents.

Dalit boy drinks water from principal's bottle, thrashed

A Class 11 Dalit student was allegedly beaten up by a school principal and two others for drinking water from the principal's bottle, in Bijnor district of Uttar Pradesh. According to a complaint filed at the Afzalgarh police station, the 16-year-old student of Chamandevi Inter College alleged that when he was drinking water from a bottle kept at the school during a farewell party on Sunday, the principal and his brother thrashed and hurled abuses at him, saying that it was for the principal's use only. The police have lodged a complaint against the principal, Yogendra Kumar, and two others under the SC/ST Prevention of Atrocities Act and other Sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

12 South African cheetahs to land in India on Saturday

After months of delay, a dozen wild cheetahs from South Africa will finally arrive on Saturday in the Kuno National Park (KNP) of Madhya Pradesh, where eight such felines were brought from Namibia last year, a wildlife expert associated with India's cheetah revival project said on Monday. These big cats – seven males and five females – will embark on journey to their new home aboard an Indian Air Force (IAF) transport aircraft from the OR Tambo International Airport, Gauteng, South Africa on Friday evening, the project participant and expert said. KNP Director Uttam Sharma said they have set up 10 quarantine bomas (enclosures) for the cheetahs. PTI

Delhi Mayoral polls can take place on later date: L-G in SC

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Delhi Lieutenant-Governor (L-G) on Monday orally submitted in the Supreme Court that mayoral elections in Delhi "can take place a few days later", and not on February 16, after the court scheduled a hearing on Friday.

Appearing before a Bench led by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud, Additional Solicitor-General Sanjay Jain, for the L-G, said said he would contest in favour of the point that nominated members do have a right to vote in the polls. Appearing for AAP mayoral candidate Shelly Oberoi, senior advocate A.M. Singhvi and Shadan Farasat said the L-G had to agree with the "clear black letters of the law" that nominated members could not vote and the elections for the posts of Mayor and Deputy Mayor and to the Standing Committees could not be held simultaneously. The results of the MCD polls were announced on December 7.

ICHR not rewriting history, only filling gaps: Minister

The body has taken up project to expand history by incorporating major historic events, personalities and incidents, says Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Indian Council of Historical Research has no plans of "rewriting" history but is filling "gaps" by incorporating all major personalities and events which are not part of history books, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said on Monday.

"The ICHR has not launched any project to rewrite Indian history. The government has no intention to rewrite history. But if you ask me, if the ICHR has taken any project on history, with due respect, I would like to inform this House that, yes it has taken," Mr. Pradhan told the Lok Sabha during Question Hour.

'Expanding history'

"We are expanding history and filling gaps by incorporating major historical events, personalities and incidents", he said.

Citing examples, the Union Minister pointed out that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had recently gone to Mangarh Dham, where in 1913, the British massacred 1,500 tribals. PTI

Citing examples, the Union Minister pointed out that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had recently gone to Mangarh Dham, where in 1913, the British massacred 1,500 tribals for their rebellion under the leadership of Govind Guru.

He said the Modi government had also decided to observe 'Veer Bal Diwas' in the memory of Sahibzada Zorawar Singh and Sahibzada Fateh Singh (sons of Guru Gobind Sahib) who were martyred in the 17th century.

Mr. Pradhan further questioned as to whether the country needs to know about Telugu revolutionary Alluri Sitarama Raju and Odisha's Baxi Jagabandhu Bidyadhara Mohapatra, who had fought against the British government. "All these are not part of current Indian history books".

He further said that India was under foreign rule for 1,100-1,200 years and if "we analyse that period then, be it south or north, east or west, there were many civilisations that worked for the glory, respect and uplift of culture". "All these should come in the pages of history. The ICHR is filling such gaps... This much working we are doing, the ICHR is doing," he said.

India is a country of many cultures. "I would like to give an example about the Kashi-Tamil Sangamam, which was held about two months ago in Varanasi. The oldest language of the world is Tamil. This is our view. India is a country which respect all languages, all cultures and all faiths. This is what the Central government believes. There is no need to create a debate over it".

Reply to plea on Deputy Speaker post, SC tells govt.

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday asked the Union government to respond to a plea that no elections have been held to the posts of Deputy Speakers in Parliament and five State Legislative Assemblies.

A Bench led by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud issued notice to the Centre and requested the Attorney-General of India R. Venkataramani to be present in court when the case comes up for hearing. The five legislative Assemblies concerned are Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand and Uttarakhand. "We will first hear what the Attorney General has to say before issuing notices to the States," the Chief Justice said. The petition said Articles 93 and 178 mandated the House of the People in Parliament and State Assemblies respectively to "choose" two of their members to the office of the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker.

₹86,912 cr. released as GST compensation to all States up to May 31, 2022: FM

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Clear the air: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman addressing the Lok Sabha on Monday. ANI

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday said that a total of ₹86,912 crore had been released towards Goods and Services Tax compensation payable to all States up to May 31, 2022, but it had been delayed for some States due to the non-availability of the Accountant-General's authenticated certificate.

Ms. Sitharamaran was replying to a question by Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam leader A. Raja during Question Hour in the Lok Sabha over whether it was possible to release the GST compensation amount "in anticipation" of the A-G's report as some States were facing financial distress.

The Finance Minister replied that as per law, it was the GST Council that decided to whom the compensation was released, and not the Union government. She said that if there was any delay in securing the A-G's authentication, it was a matter between the A-G and the State government concerned, and they had to sort it out. "If between them there is a problem, the authentication certificate gets delayed in reaching the Central government," the Finance Minister said.

Replying to a supplementary question by Kerala MP N.K. Premachandran, the Finance Minister pointed out that Kerala had not sent the A-G's certificate for GST compensation for 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21. "You have not sent [the AG certificate] even for one year and you keep blaming us that we are not giving you money on time. On the contrary, in the matter of tax devolution, as per the Finance Commission's report, two installments instead of one have gone to all States. Kerala has also benefited from that," Ms. Sitharaman said. "The State governments have to, pardon me using the word, be efficient to sort out things with the A-G. But without A-G certificate, beyond certain limits, it is very difficult for me to go," she said.

CJI wants HCs to ensure use of virtual court technology, says it is here to stay forever

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Virtual court technology is here to stay "now and forever" and the Chief Justices of High Courts, who have shut down online court hearings post-pandemic, are duty-bound to "fall in line and come on board", Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud said on Monday.

The Chief Justice said he was "really disturbed" by the attitude of certain High Court Chief Justices who were disbanding technological infrastructure created by using public money. He said they could not just switch off the cameras and microphones and insist on the physical presence of lawyers and litigants.

"The problem lies when you have some Chief Justices who are technologically friendly and others who think the other way... I am going to ensure that everybody is online... This infrastructure for virtual courts is provided using public funds. I think all the Chief Justices of High Courts need to learn that they have to be on board and there are no exceptions," he said.

D.Y. Chandrachud

The top judge's comments were in response to submissions by some lawyers that certain High Courts just switch off their cameras and microphones during hearings, ignoring the infrastructure made available to them.

'Deeply distressed'

"I am deeply distressed by this attitude... All the money which we have spent, they are just disbanding the infrastructure we have created for virtual hearing...," Chief Justice Chandrachud, who heads the Supreme Court e-committee, lashed out.

He referred to how some judges were of the view that if they could come physically to court, lawyers could very well come too. "You have to understand that the conditions in which judges come to work are very different from that the Bar has to work in," the CJI said. The Chief Justice referred to how the Union Budget has made available ₹7,000 crore for the e-courts project after a Parliamentary Committee gave a strong report in favour of more funds for the judiciary.

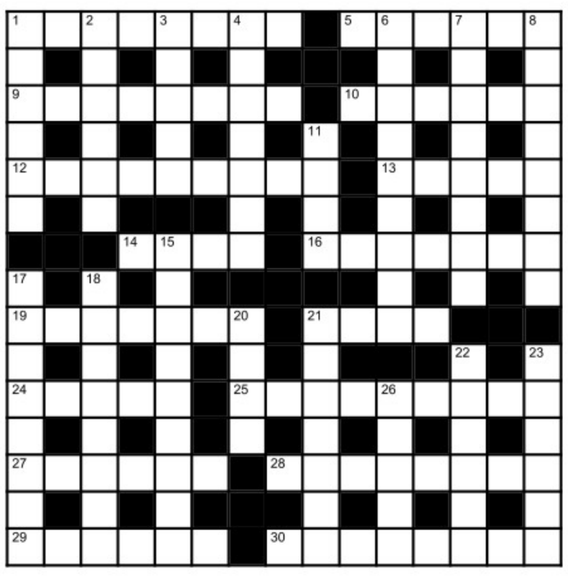
"The funds are not for us personally, we are going to use it for reaching out to people, to close the Internet divide at the grassroots level... Chief Justices need to take this mission forward... This is not how you deal with public money. If money has been spent, you [Chief Justices[have to ensure that infrastructure is available," he said.

TH CROSSWORD + 13788

(set by KrisKross)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Supporting married partner in a traditional manner (8)
5 Helps to catch very old ducks (6)
9 Magician's finale, with pigeons flying all around, entrances (8)
10 Machine design by engineer having no substance (6)
12 Principal and others welcoming the French folks (9)
13 Unacceptable, however you look at it (3,2)
14 Beloved date eagerly anticipates romantic overtures (4)
16 When speaking, the universe spun (7)
19 Lover unhappily married (7)
21 Champ first cuts with axe (4)
24 Soldiers in rebellion left, capturing nothing (5)
25 Be quiet and sleep, having complaint that is most acute (9)
27 Sweet child of Charlie and Rosemary, possibly hugging you (6)
28 Terrible place to take a break - one boring day wasted (8)
29 I, for one, second replacing amateur with veteran, essentially (6)
30 Plain ugly novel - not grand hit (8)

Down

1 Daisy perhaps fought or flew (6)
2 Smoker may use this jacket (6)
3 Nimble goalie falls, missing ball (5)
4 Less serious match (7)
6 Lover's gift fast grabbed by arrogant sweetheart (9)
7 Openers at Lord's added ninety, playing naturally (8)
8 Strain for pressing a suit? (8)
11 Brake makes a deep sound when cycling (4)
15 Partner regularly used magical charm (9)
17 A lunatic at sea, sailing (8)
18 It describes male fashions that could be obscene (8)
20 Wine from Champagne, so refreshingly uplifting (4)
21 Keep that old vehicle right in front (5,2)
22 Worried? Let me start to pray here (6)
23 Doctor dates ultimately pretty girlfriend (6)
26 Fire in block consuming bar (3,2)

SUDOKU

	3	9						7
		4	5		8			
1	5						3	
6			9				2	
	1		3		4		6	
	4				7			1
	2						4	5
			1		9	2		
4						6	1	

No.SS5709 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to previous puzzle

W	O	R	L	D	■	C	H	A
I	■	O	■	R	L	■	S	■
N	U	T	C	A	S	E	■	C
E	■	T	■	M	■	R	E	■
G	R	I	M	A	L	K	I	N
L	■	N	■	■	■	■	■	D
A	R	G	E	N	T	I	N	A
S	■	■	■	A	■	N	■	N
S	U	P	E	R	■	O	N	T
■	■	A	■	R	O	C	■	■
H	E	L	L	O	■	U	R	B
E	■	E	■	W	■	L	■	U
E	X	T	R	E	M	A	■	Y
L	■	T	■	S	■	N	E	■
S	P	E	C	T	A	T	O	R

P	I	O	N	S	■	■	■	■
■	■	S	■	O	■	H	■	H
C	O	L	O	M	B	O	■	■
■	Y	■	S	■	C	■	■	■
T	A	L	U	K	■	■	■	■
D	U	H	■	A	■	■	■	■
■	E	D	W	I	N	■	■	■
■	N	■	■	■	U	■	■	■
E	S	P	O	T	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	A	■	R	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
O	■	S	■	M	■	■	■	■
■	Y	A	R	D	A	G	E	■
M	■	N	■	N	■	■	■	■
■	S	P	O	R	T	■	■	■

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

8	7	3	5	9	2	6	1	4
2	6	9	1	7	4	5	8	3
5	1	4	3	8	6	7	2	9
3	9	8	4	5	7	2	6	1
1	2	7	9	6	3	4	5	8
6	4	5	2	1	8	9	3	7
9	5	6	7	3	1	8	4	2
4	8	1	6	2	9	3	7	5
7	3	2	8	4	5	1	9	6

FAITH

The glory of Mahalakshmi

Goddess Sri Mahalakshmi is always with Lord Narayana. He holds Her ever on His chest and She never separates from Him. Sri Vedantha Desika composed 25 slokas titled as Sri Sthuthi praising the Goddess. The acharya makes a surrender unto Her feet first. Though he was a great poet (Kavitharkika Simham), lowering himself he doubted whether he could sing in praise of Her. The acharya says that the divine consort is helping God in His works of creation, protection and destruction. She is the perfect pair to Him. She helps Him in showing us the path of salvation.

It is said that in Sri Vaikunta the Lord is playing a chess-like game called Chathuranga with Mahalakshmi. Using the universe as plank, all the living beings used as pawns are moved according to their karma. The Lord is sporting in Emerald green and her golden rays add beauty to Him in Sri Vaikunta.

Like the waves that touch the shore and disappear one after another, She emerges taking manifestations out of Her resolve and disappears. In the sea of milk not only the deep sea is sweeter but also the waves. Goddess Mahalakshmi is with the same fervour in the sea of milk as in Srivaikunta.

Sri Ramanuja in Gadhyathrayam says that Goddess takes a matching form to that of Lord (Bhagavan Narayana abhimatha anurupa). Sri Alawandhar says that His divine consort takes exactly an equal form according to the one chosen by God, Smt. Prabha Senesh said in a discourse. He with His divine consort is ever ready to fulfill our desires but He feels more happy if we had not asked Him anything.

JERUSALEM

Thousands march in Israel against Netanyahu govt.'s judicial overhaul

AFP

Thousands of Israelis protested outside Parliament on Monday ahead of a preliminary vote on a Bill that would give politicians greater power over appointing judges. The committee vote marked the opening salvo by Benjamin Netanyahu and his allies in a plan that has divided the country. AP

ISLAMABAD

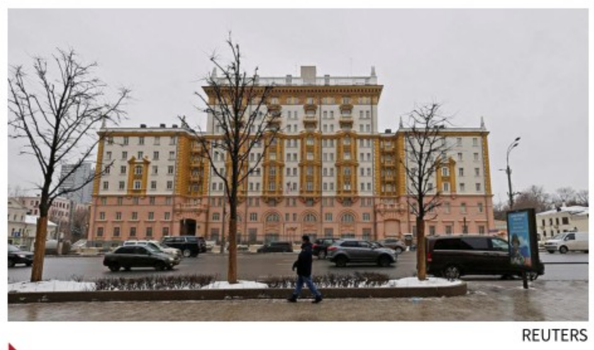
Veteran Pakistani actor Zia Mohyeddin passes away in Karachi

PTI

Zia Mohyeddin, legendary thespian, director, TV host and the first Pakistani ever to work in Hollywood, passed away on Monday after a brief illness. He was 91. The veteran actor was admitted to a hospital in Karachi after complaining of abdominal pain and fever. He was later shifted to life support after a surgical procedure. PTI

MOSCOW

U.S. asks citizens in Russia to leave; says they face risk of harassment



REUTERS

The U.S. told its citizens to leave Russia immediately due to the war in Ukraine and the risk of arbitrary arrest or harassment by law enforcement agencies. "U.S. citizens residing or travelling in Russia should depart immediately," the embassy in Moscow said. "Exercise increased caution due to the risk of wrongful detentions." REUTERS

BEIJING

China's Wang Yi to attend Munich Security Conference, visit Russia

REUTERS

China's top diplomat Wang Yi will attend the Munich Security Conference this month and plans to visit Russia, the Foreign Ministry said on Monday. Mr. Wang, director of the Office of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, will also visit France, Italy and Hungary. REUTERS

U.S. sent over 10 balloons into our airspace: China

Beijing said its handling of the 'incursions' were 'responsible and professional'; the U.S. denied the accusation as 'false' and said it was the latest example of China scrambling to do damage control

Agence France-Presse
BEIJING

China on Monday accused the U.S. of flying balloons over its territory, hitting back against Washington's claims that Beijing has been operating a fleet of surveillance aircraft around the world.

Washington strenuously denied Beijing's charges as "false" and insisted it was China alone that has surreptitiously flown spy balloons, as tensions ramped up between the two superpowers.

The downing of an alleged Chinese airship off the coast of South Carolina earlier this month prompted a resolution in the U.S. Congress condemning Beijing, while subsequent downings of other unidentified objects over North America in recent days have sparked widespread jitters and speculation as to their origins.

Only the first object has been officially attributed to China, with Beijing insisting it was a civilian craft that had blown off course.

Tension simmering: The FBI released a photo of high-altitude Chinese balloon off the coast of South Carolina on Feb. 9. REUTERS

On Monday, China sought to turn the tables on Washington, accusing it of having sent more than 10 balloons into Chinese airspace since January 2022. "It's not uncommon as well for the U.S. to illegally enter the airspace of other countries," Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin said during a briefing. "Since last year alone, U.S. balloons have illegally flown above China more than 10 times without any approval from Chinese authorities." Asked how China responded to those alleged incursions, Mr. Wang said Beijing's "handling (of these incidents) was responsible and professional".

False claims

"If you want to know more about U.S. high-altitude balloons illegally entering China's airspace, I suggest you refer to the U.S. side," he added.

The White House knocked back the allegation. "Any claim that the U.S. government operates surveillance balloons over the PRC is false," National Security Council spokesperson Adrienne Watson said on Twitter. "It is China that has a high-altitude surveillance balloon program for intelligence collection, that it has used to violate the sovereignty of the US and over 40 countries across 5 continents."

The State Department responded with a similar rejection. It called Beijing's accusation "the latest example of China scrambling to do damage control," and said the government "has failed to offer any credible explanations for its intrusion into our airspace."

Over the weekend, Chinese state-affiliated media reported that an unidentified flying object had been spotted off the country's east coast.

Truck drives into walkers in New York, injures many

Reuters
NEW YORK

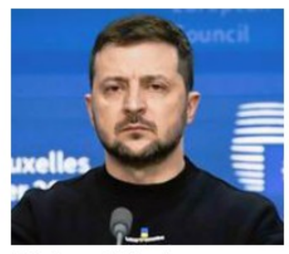
The New York police took a driver into custody on Monday after he drove a truck into at least one pedestrian while attempting to evade officers during a traffic stop in the city's Brooklyn borough, the New York City Police Department said.

WABC-TV reported that at least four people were injured, citing law enforcement sources, including a man in his 30s who was taken to the hospital in critical condition after being struck by the U-Haul rental vehicle.

The driver also struck three men on mopeds who suffered minor injuries. The police said the suspect drove through three precincts.

Russia pushes advance on Bakhmut, bolsters defences

Associated Press
KYIV



Volodymyr Zelensky

Fierce battles raged outside Bakhmut as Russian forces pushed their advance on the eastern city with heavy shelling and infantry attacks, Ukraine's presidential office said on Monday, with at least five civilians killed and as many wounded in the last 24 hours. The office said the situation in Bakhmut's Paraskoviivka is "difficult" as Russian forces continued to pummel the area with "intense shelling and storming actions." The nearby town of Vuhledar is also under heavy bombardment.

Russian forces shelled a dozen cities and villages in the Donetsk region in the last 24 hours including in Druzhkivka where a missile hit a hospital and in Pokrovsk where shelling damaged seven houses and a kindergarten.

"The shelling intensifies, and the Russians accumulate more forces for an attack on peaceful cities," Donetsk Governor Pavlo Kyrylenko said. "We're seeing a very tough battle in which the Russians aren't sparing neither themselves, nor us."

In the neighbouring Luhansk region, Russian troops pulled back after several days of intense fighting near the key city of Kreminna, although they're not "running out of steam," Luhansk Governor Serhii Haidai told Ukrainian television.

In the southern region of Kherson, artillery fire hit more than 20 cities and villages over the past 24 hours including the regional capital of the same name which was recaptured by Ukrainian forces in November. Two men were killed in one of the villages when their car ran over a landmine.

In the neighbouring Dnipropetrovsk region, Russian shelling of the city of Nikopol killed one person and wounded two others.

Meanwhile, the U.K. Defence Ministry said Russian forces are bolstering defensive fortifications on the edge of the battlefront in southern Ukraine to protect their flank, despite their focus on the Donbas region.

Broke and runied: A Syrian woman sitting with her grandchildren at her partially damaged house in Aleppo on Monday. REUTERS

Turkey, Syria quake toll crosses 35,000

Agence France-Presse
KAHRAMANMARAS

The toll from last week's earthquake in Turkey and Syria rose above 35,000 on Monday, as rescue teams started to wind down the search for survivors and the aid effort shifted to hundreds of thousands of people made homeless.

Eight days after the 7.8-magnitude tremor, Turkish media reported a handful of people were still being pulled from the rubble.

The confirmed death toll rose to 35,224 as officials and medics said 31,643 people had died in Turkey and 3,581 in Syria after the February 6 earthquake. The UN has decried the failure to ship desperately needed aid to war-torn regions of Syria and warned that the toll is set to rise even higher as experts caution that hopes for finding people alive dim with each passing day.

'Catholic priests abused nearly 5,000 children in Portugal'

Agence France-Presse
LISBON

Catholic clergy in Portugal have abused nearly 5,000 children since 1950, an independent commission said on Monday after hearing hundreds of victims' accounts. The Portuguese inquiry, commissioned by the Church in the staunchly Catholic country, published its findings after hearing from more than 500 victims last year.

"This testimony allows us to establish a much larger network of victims, at least 4,815," commission head Pedro Strecht said in Lisbon.

Mr. Strecht, a child psychiatrist, said it would be difficult now for Portugal to ignore the existence of child sex abuse or the trauma it caused.

The head of the Portuguese Episcopal Conference (CEP), Bishop Jose Ornelas, will respond to the findings later on Monday.

The country's bishops will convene in March to draw conclusions from the report and "rid the Church of this scourge as much as possible", Father Manuel Barbosa, a senior CEP member, said in January.

Faced with a multitude of clergy sex abuse cases that have come to light worldwide and the accusations of cover-ups, Pope Francis promised in 2019 to root out paedophilia within the Catholic Church. Inquiries have been launched in several countries in addition to Portugal, including Australia, France, Germany, Ireland and the Netherlands.

Saudi Arabia to send its first woman to space

Agence France-Presse
RIYADH

Saudi Arabia will send its first-ever woman astronaut on a space mission later this year, state media has reported, in the move to revamp the kingdom's ultra-conservative image. Rayyana Barnawi will join fellow Saudi male astronaut Ali Al-Qarni on a mission to the International Space Station "during the second quarter of 2023", the official *Saudi Press Agency* said on Sunday.

Rayyana Barnawi

The astronauts "will join the crew of the AX-2 space mission" and the space flight will "launch from the USA", it said. The oil-rich country will be following in the footsteps of the neighbouring United Arab Emirates which in 2019 became the first Arab country to send one of its citizens into space.

At the time, astronaut Hazzaa al-Mansoori spent eight days on the ISS. Another fellow Emirati, Sultan al-Neyadi, will also make a voyage this month. Nicknamed the "Sultan of Space", Mr. Neyadi will become the first Arab astronaut to spend six months in space when he blasts off for the ISS aboard a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket.

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KOLKATA, INDIA.

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कोलकाता, पश्चिम बंगाल
BISWA BANGLA MELA PRANGAN
Kolkata, West Bengal

15th–17th February, 2023

MPEDA
SEAI

INBRIEF

Drone start-up Garuda Aerospace raises $22 million

Drone maker Garuda Aerospace said it had raised $22 million out of a targeted fund raise of $30 million, in Series A funding to fuel growth. The round was led by venture capital firm SphitiCap which invested $12 million. The funds will be used to scale up and expand operations, Founder and CEO Agnishwar Jayaprakash said. A part of the funds would be used for R&D, accelerating the development of building smart-drones with AI and ML technologies for the armed forces.

Kennametal Q2 net slides 28% to ₹21.9 cr., revenue rises 15%

Kennametal India said standalone net profit for the quarter ended December slid 28% to ₹21.9 crore from the year-earlier period. Revenue from operations grew 15% to ₹274.8 crore on account of a recovery in the automotive and core infrastructure sectors. The company also announced the inauguration of its metal cutting inserts unit. "This will augment our capabilities in meeting the needs of high-growth segments in India," said Vijaykrishnan Venkatesan, MD.

NCLT admits Zee Learn for resolution on Yes Bank plea

The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) has directed the initiation of insolvency proceedings against Zee Learn, following a petition filed by private sector lender Yes Bank Ltd. The bank had claimed a default of ₹468.99 crore by the Essel Group company. "It clearly shows that the corporate debtor (Zee Learn) is in default of a debt due and payable, and the default is in excess of the minimum amount stipulated under section 4(1) of the IBC," the tribunal said. PTI

Govt. general insurers have ₹348-cr. exposure to Adani

Exposure of 5 state-run general insurance companies to Adani Group amounts to 0.14% of the total assets under management of all five firms, Minister of State for Finance tells Lok Sabha

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Five state-run general insurance companies have a total exposure of ₹347.64 crore, or 0.14% of their total assets under management (AUM), in the Adani Group of companies, the Finance Ministry said on Monday.

To a question on details of money lent by banks and financial institutions to the Adani Group, the Minister of State for Finance Bhagwat Karad said in a written reply to the Lok Sabha that the RBI Act prohibits disclosure of credit information submitted by a bank.

Eye on value

MoS for Finance was responding to a query in Parliament on exposure of state-run insurers to the beleagured Adani Group

- The 5 general insurance firms referred to are New India Assurance, United India Insurance, National Insurance, Oriental Insurance and General Insurance Corporation of India
- As to exposure that banks and financial institutions have to the group, Minister said RBI Act prohibits disclosure of a bank's credit data

"As per data received from... New India Assurance, United India Insurance, National Insurance, Oriental Insurance and General Insurance Corporation of India, total exposure in Adani Group of companies as on January 31, 2023 is ₹347.64 crore which is 0.14% of the total AUM of all the five companies," Mr. Karad said.

Stocks of Adani group firms had lost billions of dollars in market value after short-seller Hindenburg Research in a report dated January 24 made a litany of allegations, including fraudulent transactions and share price manipulation at the group.

Gold ETFs saw ₹199-crore outflow in January

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Gold exchange traded funds (ETFs) witnessed a net outflow of ₹199 crore in January, making it the third monthly withdrawal in a row, with investors preferring equities over other segments on buoyant record SIP flow.

Kavitha Krishnan, senior analyst - manager Research, Morningstar India, attributed the outflow to traction in equity mutual funds, with other asset classes taking a back seat. The uptick in gold prices, which led to profit booking, is likely another cause.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	MONDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	60,432	-0.41
US Dollar	82.70	-0.20
Gold	56,982	0.40
Brent oil	85.67	–

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	1717.65	-129.30
Adani Ports	553.70	-30.25
Apollo Hosp	4358.65	-57.60
Asian Paints	2790.75	-13.85
Axis Bank	859.10	-8.15
Bajaj Auto	3883.50	51.85
Bajaj Finserv	1388.55	-13.20
Bajaj Finance	6345.50	-90.00
Bharti Airtel	768.60	-3.35
BPCL	334.90	0.90
Britannia Ind	4588.00	-34.70
Cipla	1021.95	-11.25
Coal India	213.05	1.55
Divis Lab	2773.20	-38.05
Dr Reddys Lab	4524.70	25.10
Eicher Motors	3252.65	40.30
Grasim Ind	1622.30	-13.00
HCL Tech	1113.00	-2.65
HDFC	2699.85	11.15
HDFC Bank	1658.35	1.25
HDFC Life	514.50	-8.05
Hero MotoCorp	2561.55	-21.75
Hindalco	427.70	-5.45
Hind Unilever	2581.00	3.50
ICICI Bank	850.65	-3.20
IndusInd Bank	1157.35	-3.85
Infosys	1567.45	-41.10
ITC	374.20	2.85
JSW Steel	718.05	-0.90
Kotak Bank	1773.80	1.75
L&T	2203.30	39.45
M&M	1353.00	-12.45
Maruti Suzuki	8809.45	-1.90
NestleIndia	19026.80	2.95
NTPC	167.85	2.85
ONGC	148.15	1.45
PowerGrid Corp	216.00	1.90
Reliance Ind	2323.35	-13.30
SBI Life	1179.10	-5.40
State Bank	537.50	-15.55
Sun Pharma	1015.25	8.65
TataConsumerProduct	717.80	-8.80
Tata Motors	441.05	-4.80
Tata Steel	108.75	-0.05
TCS	3482.40	-55.15
Tech Mahindra	1002.50	-14.85
Titan	2519.05	50.55
UltraTech Cement	7179.25	-26.80
UPL	733.80	6.90
Wipro	400.60	-5.20

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on February 13

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	82.52	82.84
Euro	88.14	88.48
British Pound	99.34	99.73
Japanese Yen (100)	62.25	62.50
Chinese Yuan	12.09	12.14
Swiss Franc	89.39	89.75
Singapore Dollar	61.92	62.17
Canadian Dollar	61.74	61.99
Malaysian Ringitt	18.91	19.00
Australian Dollar	57.11	57.38

Source:Indian Bank

India discussing with G-20 nations on SoP to regulate crypto: FM

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday said India was discussing with the G-20 member countries the need to develop a standard operating protocol (SoP) for regulating crypto assets.

Ms. Sitharaman said crypto assets and web3 were relatively new and evolving sectors, and required significant international collaboration for any specific legislation on these sectors to be fully effective.

The FM said crypto mining, assets or transactions were completely driven by technology and a standalone country's effort in controlling and regulating it was not going to be effective.

"In the G20, we are raising it and having detailed discussions with members so that a standard operating protocol emerges which results in a coherent, comprehensive approach where all countries work together in bringing some regulation," the Minister said during Question Hour in the Lok Sabha.

Adani said to claim 'plans on track, assets generating cash'

The Hindu Bureau
AHMEDABAD

Amid a continuing slide in its stocks, the embattled Adani Group sought to assure investors, saying group entities have 'cash-generating assets' and 'plans are on track.'

It reiterated that the stock market rout of the group's listed shares had not derailed its initiatives.

The group's 10 listed entities declined on Monday by 3% to 7% while the shares of six of these hit the lower circuit. The slide followed credit rating firm Moody's revising the rating outlook of four companies of the conglomerate viz. Adani Green Energy Ltd., Adani Green Energy Restricted Group, Adani Transmission Step-One Ltd. and Adani Electricity Mumbai Ltd. to 'negative' from 'stable' on Friday.

Flagship Adani Enterprises slid 7% to ₹1,717.55 on the BSE. Shares of all other entities, including cement firms Ambuja and ACC, also declined while NDTV fell by almost 5% to ₹198.25.

"The group companies have cash-generating assets and their plans are on track" sources in the conglomerate told *The Hindu*.

They stressed the group's firms had already prepaid approximately $1.1 billion ahead of the scheduled September 2024 maturity. They said Adani Ports and SEZ had announced it would prepay up to ₹5,000 crore loans by March end to improve its financials.

The officials said the firms were servicing debt obligations despite the market turmoil caused by U.S. short-seller Hindenburg Research's report accusing it of 'wide-ranging malpractices, including 'stock-market manipulation' while raising concerns about the 'substantial debt' of the group.

PV dispatches rose 17% in Jan. on robust demand

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Passenger vehicle (PV) wholesales rose 17% in January to 2,98,093 units driven by a robust offtake of utility vehicles, including the fast-growing sports utility vehicles, SIAM said.

Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) President Vinod Aggarwal noted better consumer sentiment was driving PV demand.

Total two-wheeler wholesales in January rose 4% to 11,84,379 units.

Renault-Nissan eyes Oragadam production at 80% of capacity

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Renault Nissan Automotive India Pvt. Ltd. (RNAIPL) plans to ramp up production capacity of its Oragadam plant near Chennai to 80% over a period of time, said Ashwani Gupta, representative executive officer & COO, Nissan Motor Co.

"Currently, the plant is operating at 47% and we are looking at scaling it up to 80%. We started this alliance 15 years ago. Today, it is like rewriting a new chapter," he said.

Mr. Gupta was here to announce a fresh investment of ₹5,300 crore in the country for higher capacity utilisation, introduction of six new products including two EVs, creation of new jobs, and upgradation of the Oragadam plant.

The first product will be rolled out by 2025. RNAIPL would also be developing a left-hand driven Magnite for the export market. "We believe electric cars will be competitive only if we are able to manage the vertical integration of the full supply chain," Mr. Gupta said.

Chemplast Sanmar plans ₹680-cr. capex to expand Berigai facility

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Chemplast Sanmar Ltd. has lined up a capex of ₹680 crore for the next phase of expansion of its custom manufacturing facility near Hosur.

"We recently received confirmation from one of our customers that we have been selected to supply an advanced intermediate for an already established generic active ingredient," said MD Ramkumar Shankar.

"Therefore, we plan to kick-start the next phase of expansion of the multi-purpose facility immediately, and have earmarked a capital outlay of ₹680 crore to be spent over the next 15 months towards capacity expansion," Mr. Shankar said in a statement.

Ramkumar Shankar

Chemplast Sanmar has a 1,068-tonne-per-annum installed capacity at Berigai near Hosur.

Phase 1 is slated to be completed by Q2 of FY24.

Chemplast Sanmar, meanwhile, reported a 60% decline in standalone net profit for the quarter ended December to ₹57 crore due to a fall in prices of finished goods, coupled with an increase in energy costs.

Revenue from operations rose to ₹630 crore from ₹517 crore.

Power and fuel cost expanded by ₹37 crore mainly due to an increase in coal, natural gas and superior kerosene prices.

Boeing mulls $24-mn India logistics centre

Reuters
BENGALURU

Boeing Co. plans to invest about $24 million in India to set up a logistics centre for airplane parts, Salil Gupte, president of the local unit told Reuters on Monday, boosting its footprint in the country amid a large plane order.

India's former state-run carrier Air India, which is now owned by the Tata Group, is expected to announce a major deal this week for almost 500 jets, worth more than $100 billion at list prices, split between Boeing and Airbus, Reuters has reported.

Boeing's share includes 220 planes split as 190 737 MAX narrowbody jets, 20 787 widebodies, and 10 777Xs. Mr. Gupte said India was the third-largest domestic aviation market in the world and would soon be number three internationally.

Sport

Nagal and Mukund make main draw; Digvijay falls short

CHENNAI OPEN

S. Dipak Ragav
CHENNAI

India's Sumit Nagal and Mukund Sasikumar produced contrasting wins in their respective final-round qualifying matches to reach the main draw of the Chennai Open ATP Challenger 100 tournament.

The duo will join Ramkumar Ramanathan and Prajnesh Gunneswaran, who had received wild cards, in the main draw.

Nagal produced a clinical display to breeze past Ji Sung Nam 6-1, 6-3, while Mukund came back from a set behind to upset Jason Jung, the top seed in qualifying, 4-6, 6-4, 6-4.

Nagal. R. RAGU

On the centre court, Nagal played aggressive tennis with some beautiful forehand winners as he raced to a 4-0 lead. Ji Sung was error-prone, especially on his backhand side and was broken to love the second time.

Similarly, Nagal broke the Korean's serve early to get on board in the second set. Though Ji Sung produced a better fight, Nagal held his nerve, saving six break points through the course of the set to stay ahead. The 25-year-old Indian sealed the match by breaking again with a forehand smash in the ninth game.

The third Indian in the final qualifying round, Digvijay Pratap Singh, went down fighting 2-6, 6-7 to James McCabe.

In the main draw, top seed Chun-Hsin Tseng survived a tough battle against Nino Serdarusic before prevailing 6-4, 7-6.

Important results:
First round: Seong Chan Hong bt 3-Sebastian Ofner 6-4, 6-3; Yasutaka Uchiyama bt Marc Polmans 6-4, 7-6; Nicolas Moreno de Alboran bt Frederico Ferreira Silva 6-3, 6-2; Arthur Cazaux bt Hoang Nam Ly 6-3, 6-2.

Russia's Kachmazov and Ukraine's Orlov battle it out on a tennis court under palpable tension

S. Dipak Ragav
CHENNAI

On a typically sweltering day in Chennai, there was an intense battle on the outside courts of the SDAT Tennis Stadium during the Chennai Open ATP Challenger 100 event on Monday. It was not just another qualifying round match considering the protagonists' nationalities.

In a closely fought contest, Russian Alibek Kachmazov prevailed over Ukraine's Vladyslav Orlov in straight sets 6-4, 7-6(4) to reach the main draw.

Though not many words were exchanged, the tension was palpable considering the current geo-political climate following Russia's invasion of Ukraine last year. To illustrate, the two players did not even have the customary post-match handshake at the nets. Despite the loss, being on the tennis court itself is a big deal for the Ukrainian player.

All for the sport: Orlov has managed to find a base in Germany and travel worldwide to play tennis. R. RAGU

Hailing from Kharkiv, a city close to the Russian border, Orlov's house was damaged in the strikes last year.

The 27-year-old said he was lucky to have left the country just a week before the war. Since then, he has managed to find a base in Germany and travel worldwide to play tennis.

When asked if he felt any extra pressure to do well, considering his opponent was Russian, Orlov played it down saying he focused on the ball more than the player.

But prod him further on the conditions back home, and if he could see a Russian player as distinct from his government, Orlov did not hold back.

"I don't care. I cannot do anything. If it were up to me, of course, I would then ban these guys.

" I don't have a house now, why? I'm playing against a guy sponsored by some companies supporting the war. I don't know, that's not fair for me, but I cannot influence this. So, my job is to go and play," said Orlov.

"I think all the Russian and Belarusian players should be banned until their countries stop invading other countries. In the 21st century, you cannot kill people or destroy houses and kindergartens," he added.

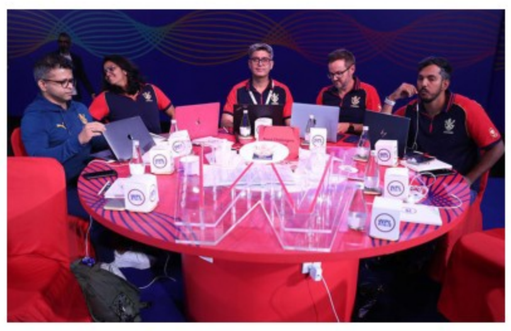
On the challenges of playing tennis with his country in turmoil, Orlov said, "tennis helps me take my mind away from it. It has motivated me.

"The army is fighting in tough conditions.

"So I must do the same here, whether it is hot or humid and win. It did not happen today, but I will try next week."

QUICK OFF THE BLOCKS

RCB breaks the bank for the first name on the list!



Royal Challengers Bangalore went all out to rope in Smriti Mandhana, who was the first name in the auction, for ₹3.4 crore. Two of the country's most loved players (Smriti and Kohli) who wear No. 18 on their jerseys play for the RCB — a development the team was quick to share with its fans.

BALANCED MIX

Mumbai Indians builds squad almost from bottom to top

Mumbai Indians now has both the men's and women's national team captains playing for their club franchises. MI built its squad almost from bottom to top, after losing out on Smriti Mandhana early on in the auction. The side has a formidable middle order and is all-rounder heavy.

DOMESTIC INSPIRATION

Gujarat franchise focuses on the Railways Giants

With Mithali Raj and Nooshin Al Khadeer in the think tank at the auction, Gujarat Giants drew inspiration and players from the most successful domestic women's side in India — the Railways. It signed the Railway players Sneh Rana, D. Hemalatha, S. Meghana and Sushma Verma.

THE LONG GAME

Delhi Capitals gets a unique blend of match-winners

Delhi Capitals channelled all their experience into playing the waiting game, springing to life when the specialist sets came on. The team has managed a unique blend of match-winners in its ranks with the likes of Meg Lanning, Jemimah Rodrigues, Shafali Verma, and Titas Sadhu.

METICULOUS APPROACH

UP Warriorz puts together formidable unit on paper

UP Warriorz had its day planned from start to finish, meticulously stacking players for its squad through the sets. Warriorz have struck a fine balance between homegrown and overseas talents, making them a formidable unit on paper.

Smriti shines brightest on a watershed day for the women cricketers

The Indian goes for a whopping ₹3.4 crore to Royal Challengers Bangalore; Australia's Gardner and England's Sciver-Brunt the big winners among the foreign players; India's Under-19 World Cup champions, too, among 87 players who make the cut for next month's inaugural edition

WPL AUCTION

P.K. Ajith Kumar
MUMBAI

Up went the paddle from a smiling Nita Ambani's right hand.

The player under the hammer was Smriti Mandhana. The price was ₹50 lakh. The auction for the inaugural Women's Premier League was underway at the Jio World Convention Centre here on a hot Monday afternoon.

Delhi Capitals made a bid for Smriti at ₹55 lakh. But it soon became an intense battle between Ms. Ambani's Mumbai Indians and Royal Challengers Bangalore. It ended with RCB winning Smirti for a whopping ₹3.4 crore.

When you consider the purse available to a franchise, that amount looks even bigger. What the RCB paid for ensuring those elegant drives on the off-side of Smriti was more than a quarter of the ₹12 core purse.

The stylish left-handed Indian opener thus ensured that the WPL's maiden auction got off to a right start – brisk, frenzied. Her high price wasn't much of a surprise – she is the poster girl of Indian women's cricket, has a big fanfollowing and is very much marketable.

Australia's Ashleigh Gardner getting richer by ₹3.2 crore may have surprised some. The all-rounder had only the other day said after taking five for 12 against New Zealand at the ongoing World Cup in South Africa that she had dreamt about the WPL auction. She has now got a dream paycheck, too, from Gujarat Giants.

England all-rounder Nat Sciver-Brunt was the only other player to go past the ₹3 crore mark. She was bagged by Mumbai Indians for ₹3.2 crore.

Four players went for ₹2 crore or more - all-rounder Deepti Sharma (₹ 2.6 crore, UP Warriorz), batter Jemimah Rodrigues (₹2.2 crore, Delhi Capitals), Australian wicketkeeper-batter Beth Mooney (₹2 crore, Gujarat Giants) and opener Shafali Verma (₹2 crore, Delhi Capitals).

Among the night's other big Indian winners were pace-bowling all-rounder Pooja Vastrakar (₹1.9 crore, Mumbai Indians), wicketkeeper-batters Richa Ghosh (₹1.9 crore, RCB) and Yastika Bhatia (₹1.5 crore, Mumbai Indians), captain Harmanpreet Kaur (₹1.8 crore, Mumbai Indians) and seamer Renuka Singh (₹1.5 crore, RCB). Leg-spinning all-rounder Devika Vaidya, who recently made a comeback to the Indian team after a long break, turned heads when she was bought by UP Warriorz for ₹1.4 crore.

Not surprisingly, the young Indian players from the Under-19 World Cup winning team attracted quite a bit of interest. India's biggest star in that tournament in South Africa, Shweta Sehrawat, who was the leading scorer, was bought by UP Warriorz for ₹40 lakh, against a base price of ₹10 lakh. Seamer Titas Sadhu was bagged by Delhi Capitals for ₹25 lakh.

Senior Indian seamer Meghna Singh was in for a disappointment. Her base price was ₹50 lakh and she went unsold.

On the same boat were some big stars from overseas. There were no takers for the England trio of Danni Wyatt, Katherine Sciver-Brunt and Amy Jones, Australia's Alana King and New Zealand's Suzie Bates, South Africa's Sune Luus and Sri Lankan Chamari Athapaththu.

Of the 449 players that went under the hammer, 87 players were bought, including 30 from overseas.

The sizzle and the fizzle

Big bucks

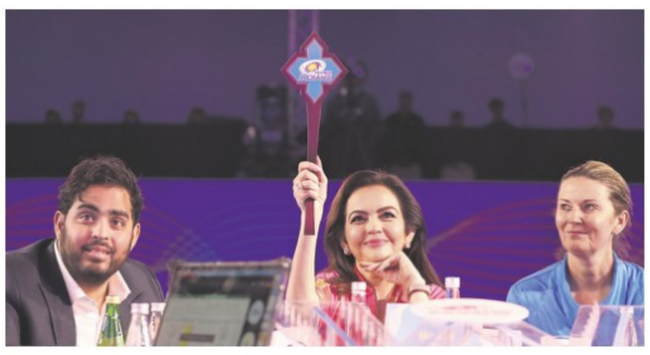
- **Smriti Mandhana** (RCB) **₹3.4 crore** *(base price 50 lakh)*
- **Ashleigh Gardner** (Gujarat Giants) **3.2 crore** *(50 lakh)*
- **Nat Sciver-Brunt** (Mumbai Indians) **3.2 crore** *(50 lakh)*
- **Deepti Sharma** (UP Warriorz) **2.6 crore** *(50 lakh)*
- **Jemimah Rodrigues** (Delhi Capitals) **2.2 crore** *(50 lakhs)*
- **Beth Mooney** (Gujarat Giants) **2 crore** *(40 lakhs)*
- **Shafali Verma** (Delhi Capitals) **2 crore** *(50 lakhs)*

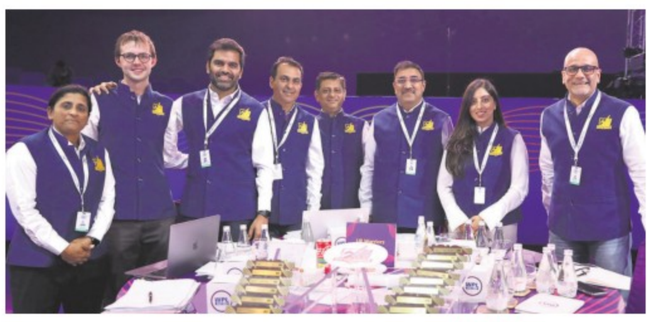
India's crorepati club

- Smriti Mandhana **3.4 crore**
- Deepti Sharma **2.6 crore**
- Jemimah Rodrigues **2.2 crore**
- Shafali Verma **2 crore**
- Richa (RCB) & Pooja (MI) **1.9 crore**
- Harmanpreet Kaur (MI) **1.8 crore**
- Renuka Singh (RCB) **1.5 crore**
- Yastika Bhatia (MI) **1.5 crore**
- Devika Vaidya (UP Warriorz) **1.4 crore**

No takers

- Danni Wyatt
- Katherine Sciver-Brunt
- Meghna Singh
- Laura Wolvaardt
- Amy Jones
- Alana King
- Suzie Bates
- Chamari Athapaththu
- Sune Luus
- Sarah Glenn





The dugouts

DELHI CAPITALS
Jemimah Rodrigues, Shafali Verma, Marizanne Kapp, Meg Lanning, Alice Capsey, Shikha Pandey, Jess Jonassen, Laura Harris, Radha Yadav, Arundhati Reddy, Minnu Mani, Poonam Yadav, Sneha Deepthi, Titas Sadhu, Tara Norris, Jasia Akhter, Taniya Bhatia and Aparna Mondal

GUJARAT GIANTS
Ashleigh Gardner, Beth Mooney, Georgia Wareham, Sneh Rana, Annabel Sutherland, Deandra Dottin, Sophia Dunkley, Sushma Verma, Tanuja Kanwar, Harleen Deol, Ashwani Kumari, D. Hemalatha, Mansi Joshi, Monica Patel, S. Meghana, Hurley Gala, Parunika Sisodia and M.D. Shabnam

MUMBAI INDIANS
Nat Sciver-Brunt, Pooja Vastrakar, Harmanpreet Kaur, Yastika Bhatia, Amelia Kerr, Amanjot Kaur, Hayley Matthews, Heather Graham, Chloe Tryon, Isabelle Wong, Priyanka Bala, Dhara Gujjar, Humaira Kaazi, Saika Ishaque, Sonam Yadav, Neelam Bisht and Jintimani Kalita

UP WARRIORZ
Deepti Sharma, Sophie Ecclestone, Devika Vaidya, Tahlia McGrath, Shabnim Ismail, Alyssa Healy, Grace Harris, Anjali Sarvani, Rajeshwari Gayakwad, Shweta Sehrawat, Kiran Navgire, Lauren Bell, Laxmi Yadav, Parshavi Chopra, S. Yashasri and Simran Shaikh

ROYAL CHALLENGERS BANGALORE
Smriti Mandhana, Richa Ghosh, Ellyse Perry, Renuka Singh, Sophie Devine, Heather Knight, Dane Van Niekerk, Kanika Ahuja, Megan Schutt, Erin Burns, Preeti Bose, Komal Zanzad, Asha Shobana, Disha Kasat, Indrani Roy, Poonam Khemnar, Shreyanka Patil and Sahana Pawar

Soundbytes

More than all the names and figures today, it was so overwhelming to see everyone cheering and celebrating the wonderful talent of women cricketers
NITA AMBANI

I have always seen Mumbai Indians doing well in the IPL and now I have the opportunity to be part of the team
HARMANPREET KAUR

Why shouldn't they become crorepatis and play for India? Why shouldn't they dream of playing in a packed crowd? If Delhi Capitals can be part of this journey, I think it completes our franchise in many ways
PARTH JINDAL

Delhi's a home team, so I feel very good. This is a big deal because fame will enter women's cricket when money comes in
SHAFALI VERMA

I want to buy a flat in Kolkata. I want my mother and father to settle down there.
RICHA GHOSH

Some have gone for higher bids, some lower than expected. That's what an auction is about. You are pretty much betting and guessing
MITHALI RAJ

Stability and trust, cornerstones of Saurashtra's decade-long excellence

RANJI TROPHY

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

Cricket and Saurashtra go back a long way. The Ranji Trophy, established in 1934, is named after K.S. Ranjitsinghji, once the ruler of the princely state of Nawanagar (present-day Jamnagar) in Saurashtra. Nawanagar, and later Western India, were also among the early winners of the premier domestic competition (1936-37 & 1943-44).

It took a side representing the region more than seven-and-a-half decades to regain the trophy (2019-20).

But it can be safely said that the Saurashtra cricket team of today has bridged the gap with its historic past, one meticulous step at a time. Starting Thursday against Bengal, Saurashtra will play its third Ranji Trophy final in four seasons and its fifth of the last decade.

"It's pretty awesome," said Saurashtra coach Niraj Odedra, after beating Karnataka in the semifinal. "Every time we have qualified from the knockouts, we have made the final. That's a great achievement. Karnataka, such a good side, has lost so many semifinals. I am very fortunate to be part of an outfit doing wonders."

The cornerstones of Saurashtra's success has been stability and trust. "Only two players have made debuts for us in the last four years," revealed Niraj, who has been with the Saurashtra set-up since 2015.

"Jay Gohil (227 on debut vs. Assam) and Yuvraj Dodia (eight wickets on debut vs. Mumbai). We give chances really late but we make sure those who get them play for long."

This steady approach is perhaps shaped by the fact that Saurashtra's talent pool is geographically constrained by the presence of two other Ranji outfits in the vicinity - Baroda and parent state Gujarat. Vidarbha, which shares a similar peculiarity (Mumbai and Maharashtra its neighbours), won the Ranji titles in 2017-18 and 2018-19.

Arpit Vasavada, a veteran of 76 First Class matches for Saurashtra and its stand-in skipper in the last two fixtures, said the settled feeling among his teammates has helped breed big-match temperament.

"You can see from the 2015-16 edition to now... most of the players are the same and all these players have the ability to handle the pressure of big games. In the quarterfinal, Punjab had a lead of 128 runs. If I recall from the dressing room atmosphere, we were all confident that we could come back.

"So that's the mindset each player has developed. They don't play for their individual goals. From the beginning of the season, the aim is to play the final and win the trophy."

It may or may not materialise against Bengal at the Eden Gardens, but it can no longer be denied that Saurashtra is a domestic stalwart, quite like how it was nearly eight decades ago.

Back in the frame: The Saurashtra team of today has bridged the gap with its historic past, reaching the business end consistently. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Dharamsala outfield not ready, third Test moved to Indore

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The third Test between India and Australia, scheduled to be played from March 1-5, has been shifted from Dharamsala to Indore owing to poor outfield conditions, BCCI said on Monday.

This was confirmed after BCCI curator Taposh Chatterjee's report deemed the outfield unfit for an international match.

"The third Test of the Mastercard Australia tour of India for the Border-Gavaskar Trophy, originally scheduled to take place at the HPCA Stadium, Dharamsala, from 1st to 5th March, has now been moved to Holkar Stadium, Indore," BCCI secretary Jay Shah said in a statement.

"Owing to harsh winter conditions in the region, the outfield lacks sufficient grass density and will need some time to develop fully," Shah further stated.

INBRIEF

Women's WC: Harshitha and Nilakshi steer Sri Lanka home

Harshitha Samarawickrama, *in pic.*, and Nilakshi de Silva shared an unbeaten 100-run partnership as Sri Lanka defeated Bangladesh by seven wickets in a low-scoring match to register its second consecutive win in the ICC Women's T20 World Cup in Cape Town. Opting to bat on Sunday, Bangladesh posted 126 for eight, which Sri Lanka eclipsed in 18.2 overs by reaching 129 for three. Harshitha (69 not out) and Nilakshi (41 not out) were the architect of Sri Lanka's chase.

The scores:
Bangladesh 126/8 in 20 overs (Sobhana Mostary 29, Nigar Sultana 28, Oshadi Ranasinghe 3/23) lost to Sri Lanka 129/3 in 18.2 overs (Harshitha Samarawickrama 69 n.o., Nilakshi de Silva 41 n.o., Marufa Akter 3/23). **PoM**: Harshitha Samarawickrama.
Ireland 105 in 18.2 overs (Gaby Lewis 36, Ecclestone 3/13) lost to England 107/6 in 14.2 overs (Alice Capsey 51, Cara Murray 3/15). **PoM**: Alice Capsey.

Chase's half-century puts West Indies in command

Roston Chase made 70 on Monday, as the West Indies built a 175-run lead with two first-innings wickets standing against Zimbabwe in Bulawayo on a rain-affected second day of the second Test. An 85-run sixth-wicket partnership between Chase and Joshua da Silva helped the West Indies reach 290 for the loss of eight wickets with three days remaining.

The scores: Zimbabwe 115 in 40.5 overs vs West Indies 290/8 in 90.4 overs (Roston Chase 70, Raymon Reifer 53, Joshua da Silva 44; Nyauchi 3/56, Mavuta 3/73.

Eoin Morgan bids adieu to franchise cricket

Eoin Morgan on Monday announced retirement from all short-format franchise cricket with immediate effect, less than a year after he quit the international game. "It is with great pride that I am announcing my retirement from all forms of cricket. I believe that now is the right time to step away from the game that has given me so much over the years," Morgan said in a statement. Morgan captained London Spirit to the Hundred's eliminator last year, was a losing finalist in the Abu Dhabi T10 with New York Strikers, and made seven appearances for Paarl Royals in the recently-concluded SA20.

LIVE TELECAST

West Indies vs Zimbabwe: 2nd Test, day 3, FanCode, 1 p.m.
ISL: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 p.m.
Women's T20 World Cup: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 10.30 p.m.
Champions League: Sony Sports Ten 1, 2, 3 (SD & HD) & LIV, 1.30 a.m. (Wednesday)

Yet another season of what could have been for Karnataka

Fielding, especially catching, let the side down against Saurashtra after Mayank's men topped the group stages

RANJI TROPHY

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

Two titles and four semifinal finishes in nine editions of the Ranji Trophy is a fine record for most sides. But not for Karnataka, a heavyweight outfit that has won the trophy eight times and been runner-up on six other occasions.

Sunday's defeat in the last-four clash to nemesis Saurashtra capped another underwhelming season. For all the promise it showed earlier in the competition, Karnataka came up short on the face of its first real test.

In the group stages, where it secured a tournament-topping 35 points, and in the quarterfinal victory against Uttarakhand, the Mayank Agarwal-led side seemed unbeatable. Nearly every batter made runs, so much so that K.V. Siddharth, Karnataka's top-scorer in 2021-22, didn't get a game.

And for the first time since the retirements of Vinay Kumar, Abhimanyu Mithun and S. Aravind, Karnataka appeared to possess the necessary fast-bowling ammunition to drive ahead.

The trio of V. Vyshak, Vidwath Kaverappa and V. Koushik together accounted for 76 wickets even as off-spinner K. Gowtham added 27 more.

But it was also lucky to avoid many a domestic giant, past and present. The likes of Mumbai, Tamil Nadu, Delhi, Maharashtra and Hyderabad were all bunched together in another group, and in what is a reflection of the growing standard of cricket around the country – which Karnataka also has to reconcile with – none of these teams made it out of the group stage.

Against Saurashtra at home, the batting trio of R. Samarth, Manish Pandey and Devdutt Padikkal collected just 30 combined runs in six visits to the crease. The pacers seemed spent even on a helpful wicket.

The side badly missed a bowler who could keep the runs down and create pressure. Gowtham was effective only on the fifth day and Shreyas Gopal, the leg-spinner, was anonymous. Fielding, especially catching, left much to be desired.

Mayank Agarwal's 990 runs, including a brilliant 249 against Saurashtra, after a few below-par seasons, and Nikin Jose's fine debut campaign in which he scored 547 runs are indeed big positives.

But the duo would have definitely traded a few runs for a place in the final.

Shining light: Nikin Joseph's debut season saw him score 547 runs, in a big positive for Karnataka. SUDHAKARA JAIN

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

BFC and Blasters condemn fans' clash
Kerala Blasters and Bengaluru FC (BFC) are working together to identify the spectators who were involved in physical altercations during their ISL match on Saturday, the clubs explained in a joint statement.
The fights broke out shortly after BFC defeated Kerala Blasters 1-0 in front of a packed Sree Kanteerava Stadium.
"Both clubs strongly condemn any acts of harassment, abuse or violence and are working closely to identify those involved at all stages of these incidents," the joint statement issued by BFC and Kerala Blasters read.

Madhu cracks century in Hosakote CC's win
J. Madhu (101) helped Hosakote CC defeat Bangalore United CC (2) in the KSCA Group I, V division league.
The scores:
Hosakote 279 in 47.4 overs (N. Manu 30, J. Madhu 101, Santhosh 33, K. Kiran 46) bt Bangalore United (2) 256/9 in 50 overs (Hussnain Kokab 92, Ganesh Kailash 32 n.o., Mohammed Aimaan 25 n.o., Santhosh 3/33, Krishnamurthy 3/46).
UVC College 61 in 19.3 overs (R. Gautham Reddy 5/2) lost to Lions 62/2 in 5.4 overs (Manoj Kumar 29 n.o.).
Dooravani Cricketers (2) 89 in 34.1 overs (Shivnarain Rakshith 27, N. Sunil 3/12, Jayanth Gowda 3/12) lost to Southern Cricketers 90/6 in 22.2 overs (Suresh Ramanjunappa 3/20).
Youth 109 in 34.5 overs (N. Manju 25, Siddharth Koul 25, P. Dinesha 3/29, B.S. Chethan 3/17) lost to Eminents Cricketers 111/3 in 12.5 overs (Adnan Asad 39).
YMCA (2) 191/8 in 50 overs (Yogananda Venkateshwar 25, A. Kalkiyan 56 n.o., Sai Dheeraj 48, Shahbaz Ahmed 3/32) lost to Kengeri Cricketers 244/1 in 16.5 overs (Kumar Jha 63 n.o., Muneer Ahmed 90).
Huttons 286 in 43 overs (Kushal Keshav 28, S.K. Mallikarjun 100, Arnav Gokhale 40 n.o., V. Rohit 4/48) bt Young Boys CA 105 in 25.1 overs (Arjun Reddy 25, Mohammed Ali 4/13).
Chamarajpet 279 in 48.5 overs (K.N. Nikhil 66, Hemanth Kumar 33, Sarveet Dubey 86, S. Suvik 3/75, P. Mohan 4/22) bt Diamond 168 in 33.1 overs (B.V. Arjun 42, Keertan Raj 46, Sarveet Dubey 5/28).
Central College 74 in 21.3 overs (Mohammed Arif 3/18, Tabrez Hussainm 7/25) lost to Citizen Cultural 77/2 in 6.3 overs (Mohammed Arif 60 n.o.).

Royals FC posts win
Royals FC edged out Postal Department FC 1-0 in the 'B' division football league.
The results:
Royals 1 (K. Arun 69) bt Postal Department 0.
Vehicles 3 (Surya Prakash 23, 48, S. Lathesh 47) bt Al Fateh 1 (Zaib Sheriff 39).

TN youth boys inch closer to knockouts

Sports Bureau
CHENNAI

Drawn in Group F, the Tamil Nadu youth (u-19) boys' team inched closer to the knockouts with two identical wins of 3-0, first against Chhattisgarh and then against Kerala, to take the top position in the UTT-84th inter-State National youth and junior table tennis here on Monday.

The results: Group Results (Rounds 1 & 2): Group A: West Bengal bt Himachal Pradesh 3-1; West Bengal bt Odisha 3-0. **Group B:** Uttar Pradesh bt Daman & Diu 3-0; UP bt MP 3-1. **Group C:** Delhi bt Andhra Pradesh 3-0; Delhi bt Chandigarh 3-0. **Group D:** Maharashtra bt Jharkhand 3-0; Maharashtra bt Punjab 3-0. **Group E:** PSPBA bt Haryana 3-1; Manipur bt Bihar 3-1; Manipur bt Haryana 3-2; PSPBA bt Bihar.

Group F: Tamil Nadu bt Chhattisgarh 3-0; Kerala bt Uttarakhand 3-1; Tamil Nadu bt Kerala 3-0; Chhattisgarh bt Uttarakhand 3-0. **Group G:** Telangana bt J & K 3-0; Assam bt Pondicherry 3-1; J & K bt Pondicherry 3-0; Telangana bt Assam 3-1. **Group H:** Karnataka bt Goa 3-1; Gujarat bt Rajasthan 3-1; Karnataka bt Gujarat 3-0; Rajasthan bt Goa 3-1.

Pedri guides Barca past Villarreal to 11-point lead

Agence France-Presse
VILLARREAL

Pedri's strike earned Barcelona a battling 1-0 win over Villarreal on Sunday to move 11 points clear of second-placed Real Madrid at the top of LaLiga.

The champion, which won the Club World Cup on Saturday, faces Elche in midweek to try and bite back into the growing gap.

The results: LaLiga: Real Valladolid 0 drew with Osasuna 0; Villarreal 0 lost to Barcelona 1 (Pedri 18). **Serie A:** Juventus 1 (Rabiot 34) bt Fiorentina 0; Napoli 3 (Kvaratskhelia 21, Osimhen 65, Elmas 79) bt Cremonese 0.

Gill, Scrivens win ICC POTM awards

Press Trust of India
DUBAI

India batter Shubman Gill was on Monday named ICC Men's Player of the Month for January following a series of impressive innings in the ODI format, while England U-19 skipper Grace Scrivens became the youngest to be named for the women's honour.

Gill enjoyed a record-breaking month in white-ball cricket in January. Scrivens bagged the award after her all-round brilliance in the ICC U-19 Women's T20 World Cup. Equally, the England captain excelled in her leadership role, guiding her side to the final.

Lagos claims Kakatiya Million

RACING

HYDERABAD: Trainer D. Netto's mare Lagos, ridden by Suraj Narredu, won the Kakatiya Million the main event of the Monday's (Feb. 13) races.
The winner is owned by Mr. S. Pathy & Mr. B.E. Vasanth Kumar.
Trainer S.S.F. Hassan saddled his 400th winner of his training career through Master Touch today.
1. KAMAREDDY CUP (DIV. II): SOORYA VAHAN (P. Sai Kumar) 1, Coming Home (D.S. Deora) 2, Pal Cha (Gaurav Singh) 3 and Indian King (Mukesh Kumar) 4. 1, Shd and 1-1/2. 1m 26. 46s. ₹180 (w), 23, 14 and 11 (p). SHP: 36, THP: 59, SHW: 56 and 16, FP: 861, Q: 370, Tanala: 1,597. Favourite: Indian King.
Owners: Mr. Satyanarayana Reddy Pannala & Mr. Rakesh Reddy Kondakalla. Trainer: Robin Reddy Kondakalla.
2. SEA BIRD PLATE: DETECTIVE (B. Nikhil) 1, Sangreal (Suraj Narredu) 2, Miss Maya (Akshay Kumar) 3 and Bash On Regardless (P. Ajeeth Kumar) 4. 2-1/2, 2-1/2 and 2-1/4. 1m 26. 14s. ₹50 (w), 13, 15 and 11 (p). SHP: 32, THP: 97, SHW: 28 and 12, FP: 199, Q: 79, Tanala: 534. Favourite: Miss Maya.
Owners: Kunwar Digvijay Singh Shekhawat, Mr. Cyrus F. Palia & Mrs. Freny C. Palia. Trainer: R.H. Sequeira.
3. RISING STAR PLATE (DIV. II): BLACK EAGLE (Akshay Kumar) 1, N R I Fantasy (Imran Chisty) 2, Milton Keynes (Mukesh Kumar) 3 and Divine Connection (Aneel) 4. 4, 2-1/4 and 3. 1m 12. 23s. ₹11 (w), 11, 12 and 13 (p). SHP: 22, THP: 37, SHW: 11 and 17, FP: 22, Q: 20, Tanala: 48. Favourite: Black Eagle.
Owners: Mr. Zavaray S. Poonawalla, Mrs. Behroze Z. Poonawalla, Mr. Yohan Z. Poonawalla, Mrs. Michelle Y. Poonawalla, Ms. Delna Z. Poonawalla, Mrs. Simone Poonawalla Pandole and Mr. Rishad N. Pandole rep. Poonawalla Racing & Breeding Pvt. Ltd. & Mr. Chaduranga Kanthraj Urs. Trainer: M. Srinivas Reddy.
4. KAMAREDDY CUP (DIV. I): MASTER TOUCH (Akshay Kumar) 1, Classy Dame (R.S. Jodha) 2, Mireya (B. Nikhil) 3 and Sucker Punch (P. Sai Kumar) 4. 2-3/4, 1-1/2 and 2. 1m 26. 39s. ₹31 (w), 13, 35 and 49 (p). SHP: 123, THP: 83, SHW: 12 and 73, FP: 227, Q: 180, Tanala: 4,754. Favourite: Burgundy Black.
Owners: Mr. A.K. Jaiswal & Mr. Mirza Ayub Baig. Trainer: S.S.F. Hassan.
5. KUNTLA PLATE: STAR BABE (Abhay Singh) 1, Wallop And Gallop (P. Ajeeth Kumar) 2, Beauty Flame (Santosh Raj) 3 and City Of Blessing (Sonu Kumar) 4. Nk, 2-1/4 and 3/4. 1m 26. 36s. ₹302 (w), 66, 23 and 22 (p). SHP: 79, THP: 81, SHW: 37 and 46, FP: 2,500, Q: 1,304, Tanala: 74,854. Favourite: Char Ek Char.
Owner: Mr. Sreerama Suresh. Trainer: M.R. Chauhan.
6. TELANGANA RACE HORSE OWNERS ASSOCIATION TROPHY: CITY OF BLISS (Mukesh Kumar) 1, Avancia (Mohit Singh) 2, Bangor On Dee (Akshay Kumar) 3 and Rising Queen (P. Sai Kumar) 4. 2-1/4, 1/2 and Shd. 1m 11. 77s. ₹245 (w), 39, 60 and 14 (p). SHP: 254, THP: 45, SHW: 119 and 262, FP: 13,518, Q: 3,289, Tanala: 18,790. Favourite: Strauss.
Owner: Mr. K. Thribhuvan Reddy. Trainer: N. Rawal.
7. KAKATIYA MILLION: LAGOS (Suraj Narredu) 1, Black Onyx (D.S. Deora) 2, De Villers (Akshay Kumar) 3 and Beauty Blaze (Santosh Raj) 4. 2-1/4, 1-1/4 and 5-3/4. 1m 11. 65s. ₹14 (w), 12 and 13 (p). SHP: 19, THP: 22, SHW: 13 and 10, FP: 19, Q: 17, Tanala: 21. Favourite: Lagos.
Owners: Mr. S. Pathy & Mr. B.E. Vasanth Kumar. Trainer: D. Netto.
8. DREAM GIRL PLATE: WOT'S UP JAY (Mukesh Kumar) 1, Muaser (P. Ajeeth Kumar) 2, Shubhrak (Rafique Sk.) 3 and Jack Daniel (R.S. Jodha) 4. Nk, 1/2 and 3/4. 1m 55. 18s. ₹25 (w), 14, 16 and 56 (p). SHP: 53, THP: 99, SHW: 28 and 10, FP: 74, Q: 32, Tanala: 696. Favourite: Wot's Up Jay.
Owner: Mr. Shaik Kassam. Trainer: Sk. Waseem Ahmed.
Jackpot: 70%: ₹65,819 (9 tkts.), 30%: 8,754 (29 tkts.).
Mini Jackpot: (i) 6,997 (9 tkts.), (ii) 24,416 (3 tkts.).
Treble: (i) 1,760 (23 tkts.), (ii) 642 (52 tkts.), (iii) 1,839 (52 tkts.).

PSG vs Bayern headlines Champions League return

Agence France-Presse
PARIS

Kylian Mbappe has been named in Paris Saint-Germain's squad for its Champions League last 16 first leg against Bayern Munich on Tuesday after making a faster-than-expected return to training following a thigh injury.

After Mbappe suffered the injury against Montpellier on February 1, the French champion said he would be out for three weeks.

On Saturday, coach Christophe Galtier said he did not think Mbappe would play on Tuesday.

The fixtures: AC Milan vs Tottenham Hotspur; Paris Saint-Germain vs Bayern Munich 1.30 a.m. (Wednesday).

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